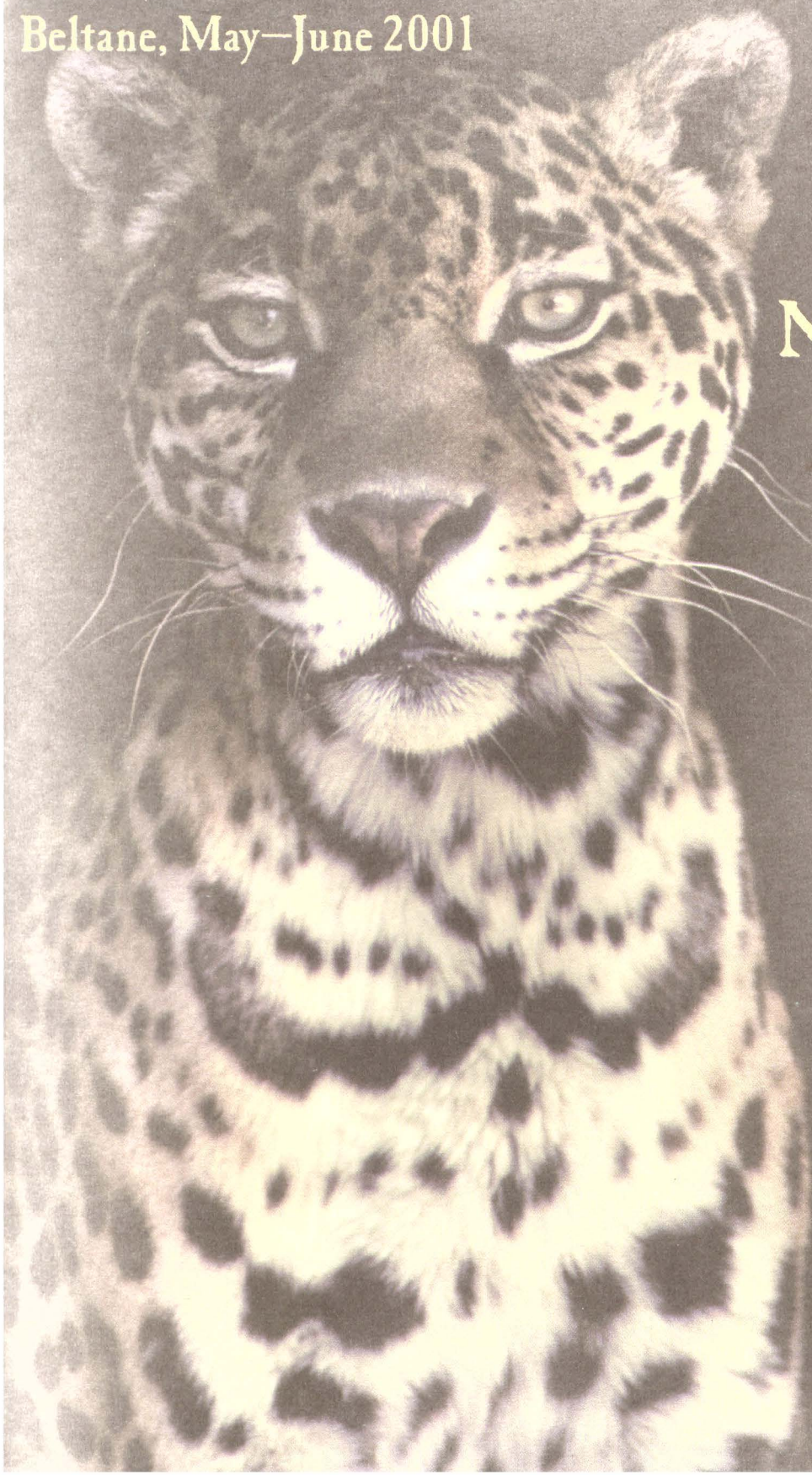
Earth First!

Beltane, May–June 2001

$6.00 Canada
$4.00 US



No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth

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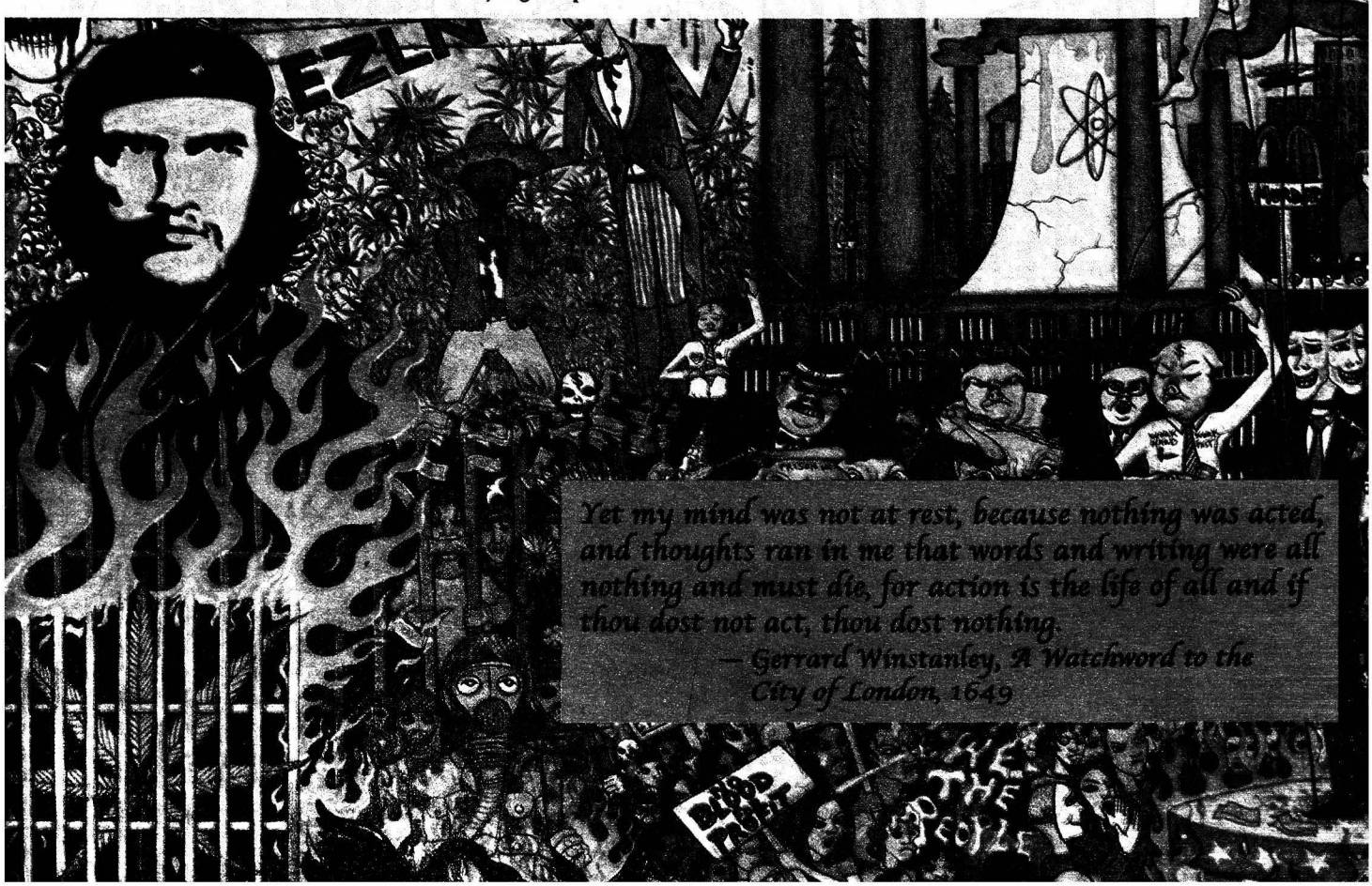
The Essence of Earth First!

We are a group of people coming together under the banner of Earth First! because we believe it is essential to take direct action to reverse, stop and ultimately overthrow that which is causing the miserable destruction of the planet's delicate and diverse biosphere. Without individual and collective actions there would be no EF!. EF! is not the people at an EF! Rendezvous—it is rather a dynamic, non-hierarchical, organic entity instead of an official organization. We may each of us be part of wider networks and campaigns, in addition to the actions we take as part of EF!. The movement for radical social change is a dynamic, organic one with many elements, many ways of operating effectively and no clear boundaries. Those who network and act together as EF! may also use other networks, banners and methods to carry out complementary work as part of a wider movement for radical change and would be mistaken to try and make EF! be every part of this; it merely represents a grouping that has come together around a particular method of effecting a particular type of change—this is its strength. Beyond being a banner, EF! exists as a network and as such has the constituent parts of a non-hierarchical network. It consists of further geographic groups or nodes that operate together locally and as part of the wider EF! network. Its other trappings have been publications and events: both gatherings to talk and gatherings to act. How these trappings operate and relate to EF! can be an area of confusion and some frustration. There is danger in these trappings when they do not remain consistent with the essential philosophy of non-hierarchy and direct action: often gatherings and publications can be afflicted by informal hierarchy and non-action. Such trappings may be necessary for the EF! network to have a meaningful interface with that which is not EF!, but they can not be a substitute for the most fundamental essence of EF!. That essence is expressed through ecological direct action, as part of a wider strategy of radical social change to reverse, stop and ultimately overthrow the forces that are destroying the planet and its inhabitants.



Yet my mind was not at rest, because nothing was acted, and thoughts ran in me that words and writing were all nothing and must die, for action is the life of all and if thou dost not act, thou dost nothing.

— Gerrard Winstanley, A Watchword to the City of London, 1649

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The *Radical* Environmental Journal

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Protesters block nuclear shipment in northern Germany.
See article page 29.

Welcome to the New *Earth First! Journal*

Here are a few updates from the new *Earth First! Journal* collective:

•We purchased the most eco-friendly paper we could afford for this first issue from Tucson. However, due to markets controlled by global pulp and paper cartels, it's not very eco. We are committed to trying to find a way to print on tree-free or at least entirely post-consumer recycled paper. What could make that happen is one or more individuals willing to kick down toward this goal.

•Likewise with solar power: We would love to use Arizona sunshine instead of fossil fuels to run our office. Please get in touch if you can help us get off the grid!

•We now have a Pretty Good Privacy (PGP) encryption key posted on our website. Anyone can download that key and send us encrypted email. One can even send in articles without our knowing who sent it or from where it was sent—a potentially beneficial arrangement for both parties! Consult security.tao.ca for a full discussion about Internet security.

• We have integrated the Earth Night News section into the Frontlines section because we see value in "all tools in the toolbox." Separating sabotage actions from blockades and civil disobedience in our reporting would help create an artificial distinction when, in reality, we all need to be more inclusive in our strategies of resistance.

•Thanks to all who replied to the recent *EF!J* survey issued from Eugene. We are compiling the results and will incorporate those comments into our efforts to put out the best paper we can.

• Although we report extensively on actions, our role is not to serve as a press office or conduct media interviews—there are many skilled activists who fill that necessary role. In particular, the ELF/ALF press offices and GenetiX Alert do a fantastic job of disseminating information on direct actions and explaining why people use certain tactics. Contact them at:

North American Earth Liberation Front Press Office
(503) 478-0902; Elfpress@tao.ca; www.earthliberationfront.com.

North American Animal Liberation Front Press Office
POB 3673, Courtenay, BC V9N 7P1, Canada; (250) 703-6312; (419) 858-9065 fax; naalfpo@tao.ca; www.animalliberation.net/media/naalfpo.html.

GenetiX Alert
787 Ellsworth, Memphis, TN 38111; (901) 438-9907; genetixalert@tao.ca; www.tao.ca/~ban/gapo.htm.

The *Earth First! Journal* is published 8 times a year on the solstices, equinoxes and cross-quarter days on or about November 1, December 21 (Winter Solstice), February 2, March 21 (Vernal Equinox), May 1, June 21 (Summer Solstice), August 1, and September 21 (Autumnal Equinox) by Daily Planet Publishing, POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. US subscriptions are $25. Outside the US, surface delivery is $40 and airmail is $50. See form, page 78.

Deadline for the next issue is:
May 14

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Earth First! Journal is a forum for the no-compromise environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of this newspaper, the Earth First! movement, local Earth First! groups or individual Earth First!ers.

Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via e-mail. Art or photographs are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested.

All submissions are edited for length and clarity. If an article is significantly edited, we will make a reasonable effort to contact the author prior to publication.

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Greetings from the Sonoran Desert

We finally pulled into Tucson at 7 a.m., after three hellish days on the road in two poorly-maintained U-Haul trucks—one of which had a tire blow out, the other of which had no suspension. After many celebratory libations, we unloaded all that is the physical *Journal* into our new digs—a veritable aircraft hanger compared to the tiny Eugene office which, by the way, did *not* burn down. We honestly thought the cheesy, Photoshopped flames would clue everyone into the fact that the entire cover wrap of last issue was an April Fool's spoof. Judging by some of the sympathetic condolences we've received, I guess that's not the case. Anyway, with the new office littered with still-to-be-unpacked boxes, we scrambled to get set up while simultaneously diving into working on this collective's first edition of the Earth First! movement's mouthpiece.

Sadness at leaving my Eugene collective aside, I can barely contain the excitement I feel for the things we have the potential to do with the magazine in a new location and an infusion of new blood. The new collective is diverse and talented. The local community is taking good care of us, feeding us with dumpstered and donated organic produce. Local activists are volunteering their time and energy to help us with set up and editing. And, after an unusually wet winter, the desert here is bursting with wildflowers, some of which probably haven't bloomed in 20 years. All of this makes for a hell of a "Welcome to Tucson."

Josh and Adam came along from Eugene to help with the transition, and I can't imagine how we could have done it without them. Those two have my eternal gratitude. We've tried every conceivable ruse and restraint device to convince them to stay and embark on this new adventure with us—but, alas, to no avail. They both have new projects to work on, and I wish them all the best.

To the Eugene Journalistas, thanks for eight of the most rewarding months of my life. I'd work in a collective again with any of y'all in a heartbeat. I'll be calling on you to write articles too. You're not off the hook yet!

And to the increasingly diverse, loose affiliation of activists and revolutionaries that is Earth First!, the *Journal* is the voice of the radical environmental movement. Your movement. As you are everyday making history by fighting for the Earth and all that's wild, so too should you be telling that history in the pages of this publication. Send articles, artwork, photos and stories to us. Let us know what you want to see in here.

Go to the Round River Rendezvous in Wyoming and meet with us, critique the *Journal* and guide us.

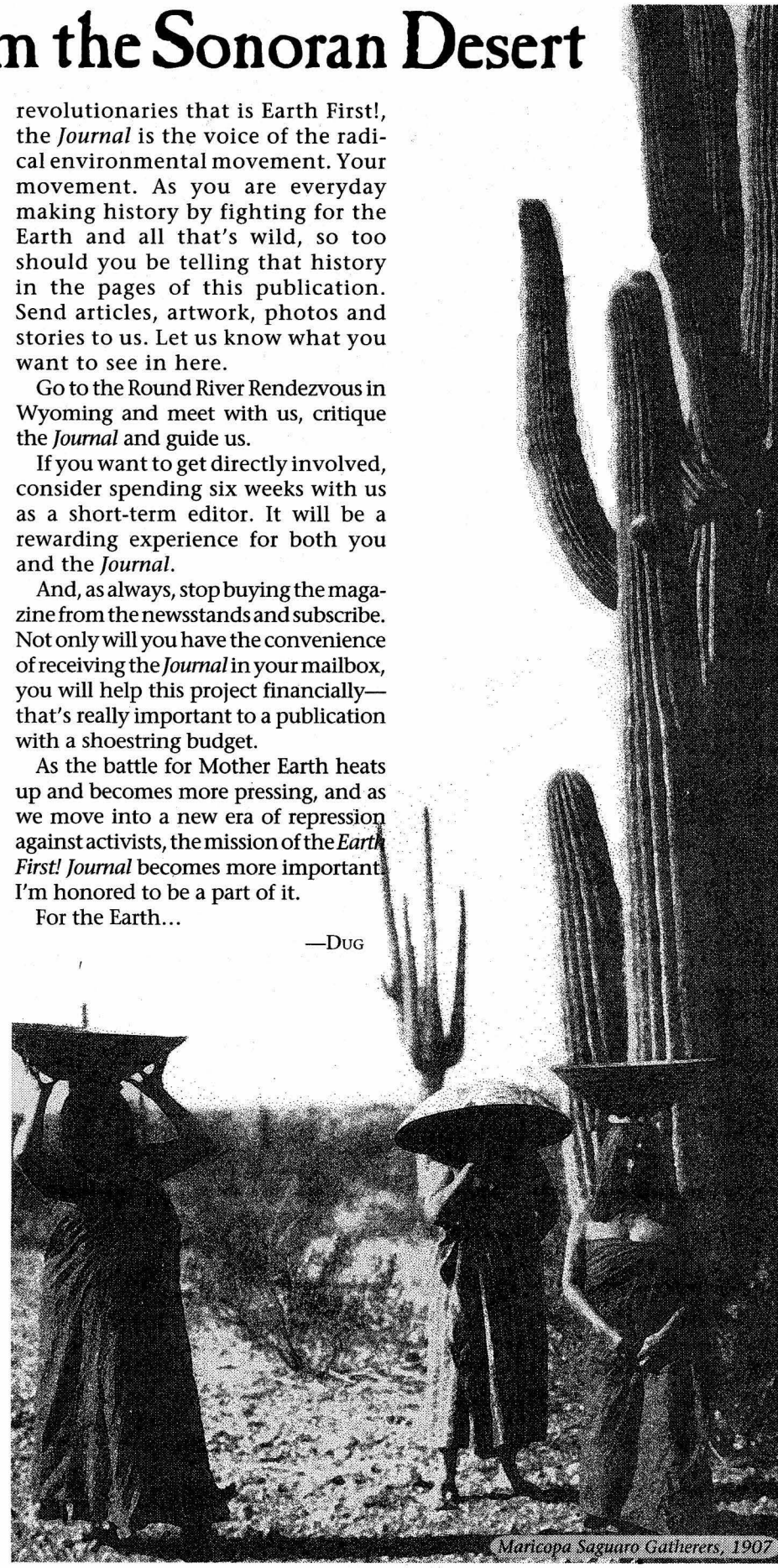
If you want to get directly involved, consider spending six weeks with us as a short-term editor. It will be a rewarding experience for both you and the *Journal*.

And, as always, stop buying the magazine from the newsstands and subscribe. Not only will you have the convenience of receiving the *Journal* in your mailbox, you will help this project financially—that's really important to a publication with a shoestring budget.

As the battle for Mother Earth heats up and becomes more pressing, and as we move into a new era of repression against activists, the mission of the *Earth First! Journal* becomes more important. I'm honored to be a part of it.

For the Earth...

—Dug



Maricopa Saguaro Gatherers, 1907

photo by Edward S. Curtis

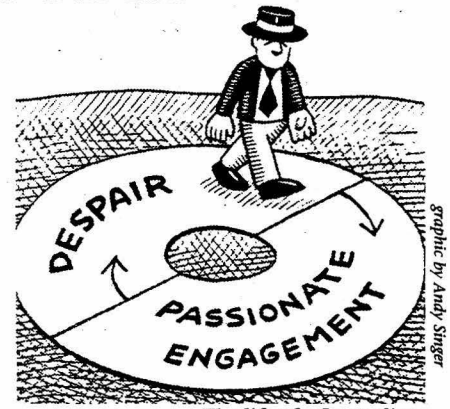
From Tucson to Tucson: Coming Full Circle

Sometimes, it all just comes together. This morning I pulled a double-take as I flipped through an old Beltane issue of the *EF!J*. About a decade ago I sat in a small southwestern café and read my first copy of the *Journal* and marveled at the amazing actions people were taking in defense of the Earth. The issue in my hands today was that very same one: Slugthang and crew dumping fishheads in the offices of the Bonneville dam, treesits in lush old-growth forests, ecotage, poetry and passion.

Now, a decade later and entering a new decade in my own life, I've never felt more connected to the movement and people who have helped guide me down the path I'm on. From a student environmentalist reading the *EF!J* to becoming one of its editors, from attending southwestern SEAC conferences back in the day to now returning to Tucson with an amazing collective, I have a sense of coming full circle.

At this moment, mere days before going to print, we have a set of articles and images that should offer a distinctive tone for our first issue from Arizona since the *Journal* moved in 1990. As *Journalistas* we will cover the growing ecological direct action movement in North America and communicate with like-minded folks fighting the industrial hydra-headed beast in other lands. In doing so, we will also contribute to the evolution of the eco-resistance instead of just serving as a mirror to it.

While the *EF!J* will continue to be responsive to EF!ers, we also have to recognize that *"the Radical Environmental Journal,"* as we bill ourselves, has a role to play in supporting eco-activists whether they use the EF! banner or not. Nowadays, it's more accurate to describe EF! as a network within the radical environmental movement rather than a movement in and of itself. And that's fine. As long as the people in struggle hold an uncompromising biocentric philosophy, or if certain news is of interest to our readers who do, then we will cover it. From biodiversity projects to banner hangs to ecotage, we are all united in struggle against a common enemy and need to get beyond our petty dogmas surrounding tactics.



The life of a Journalista.

While it's nice and dandy for us to put out publications such as this, and it's worthwhile for folks to read and think about the articles herein, let's not forget that deeds and not words will carry the day. If we really consider what we're losing with each forest clearcut, mountain strip-mined, river dammed, whale harpooned, desert paved, primate vivisected, crop genetically engineered... then our response must be to cultivate a passionate green rage and take action in defense of the Earth.

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—AL

BY FAITH WALKER

Fauna. *n.* animal life.
Cabala. *n.* an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious art.

By daybreak, lungworm larvae have already trudged to their cowpat's summit. *Dictyocaulus viviparus*, a species that has a peremptory fondness for cattle, resides in air passages, where individuals live out their adult lives in a harmonious mass that periodically chokes and gags the frothy host. Eggs, which hatch in the lungs, are thus coughed up, swallowed and packaged into pats. To fulfill their destiny as four-inch long adults, the wrigglers must rise up out of their feculent nursery and be eaten by a cow. These grazing behemoths, however, have learned not to eat around the edges of their poops because of the danger of picking up hitchhikers in the lush grass. Thus, some larval rebels climb upon a fungus called *Pilobolus*. Shortly after dawn the sporebearing structures of this fungus fire, catapulting the larvae away from the pats. At the end of their flight, about six feet from the mothership, they're much more likely to be eaten. Once consumed, the larvae carve through the intestinal wall, float through the blood vessels and disembark at the lungs. Those larvae who don't make it into a cow by winter jump into the bodies of earthworms, who coddle them for another round of the evolutionary arms race between parasite and host, come spring.

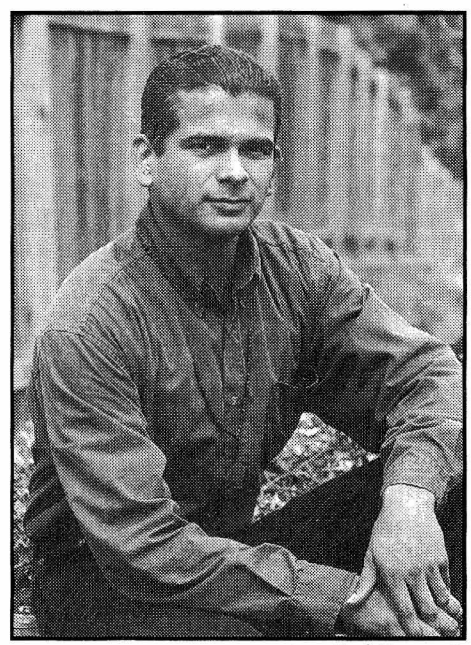
Freedom of Speech? Think Again!

Feds Gag Rod Coronado

Before the *Earth First! Journal* could complete its move to Arizona, the US Government took action against one of its editorial collective members. Those familiar with our movement's history will know that convicted monkeywrencher Rod Coronado was a catalyst, once released from prison, in getting the *Journal* moved to Arizona. Within days of his release from federal prison, Coronado became a short-term editor in Oregon, where he spent the spring and summer of 1999.

Following his return to Arizona, Coronado became active once again with Arizona Earth First!, while also traveling and lecturing about direct action in defense of the Earth and sharing stories of life in the Animal Liberation Front (ALF). He also wrote a regular column for the animal liberation newspaper, *No Compromise,* and lobbied for the *Journal's* move to Tucson.

Last summer, Coronado accompanied our beloved *compañera* Peg Millet onstage at the Round River Rendezvous (RRR) in Katúah to celebrate not only the decision to move the *Journal* to Tucson, but also his return to Earth First!. Their presence at the RRR and the demonstration of their unbroken post-prison spirits was a strong statement of resistance to the government's war of repression against those who break societal laws to defend the Earth.



Rod Coronado

It was federal agents in Oregon, investigating the Earth Liberation Front (ELF), who contacted Coronado's probation officer and protested his involvement with Earth First!. In December, Coronado was placed under strict travel restrictions and had his constitutional rights of free speech and association stripped away. This was done under the legal presumption that the federal government could impose strict probationary conditions while he is serving a three-year sentence of supervised release, which began when he completed his four-year term of incarceration.

continued on page 56

Dear Shit fer Brains... keep it under 300 words!

Dear fence-sitting poop for brains,

While treating myself to reading about the exploits of the "Coalition to Save the Preserves" in the *Tucson Weekly* (3/22/01), I came upon a disturbing quote. According to *EF Journal* co-editor, Turtle: "It's our position to neither condemn nor condone direct action... But while we don't condone it, we sure understand the need behind it."

I'm sorry. Did I read that correctly? Developments are going up in flames on both coasts, the ecological underground is growing despite the best attempts of the FBI, and we have activists facing many years in prison in both Indiana and New York. In light of these events and the growing ecological crisis, that quote from a *Journal* editor reads like it came from the Sierra Club.

I sincerely hope that it was a misquote and that EF has grown beyond the "wink wink," cheeky, passive-aggressive approach to supporting economic sabotage. If the *EF Journal* doesn't fully, publicly and without reservation support the ELF, then who will?

—Rabid

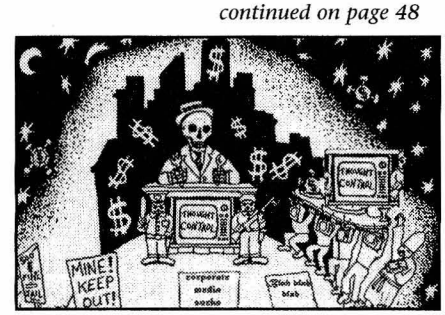
PS: Don't insert exclamation points into my letter after "EF," it was intentional.

Editor's Note: We hope the coverage in the Journal in the coming months (and years) will be proof enough to allay your concerns. We hope it will spark some passionate outrage and incite action. If the Journal ever does appear too milquetoast, please pipe up! Beyond that, we'd just ask that you read what we have to say (not what they say we said), and then make your own conclusions.

Also, you raise the tricks and perils of playing with the corporate media. If only all "alternative" weeklies could be as rad as the Phoenix New Times. Let's hope that the Sierra Club and NRDC were misquoted in the Tucson Weekly *article too!*

—*T.*

continued on page 48



Mattole Free State Raided!

Defenders Vow to Keep Up Fight

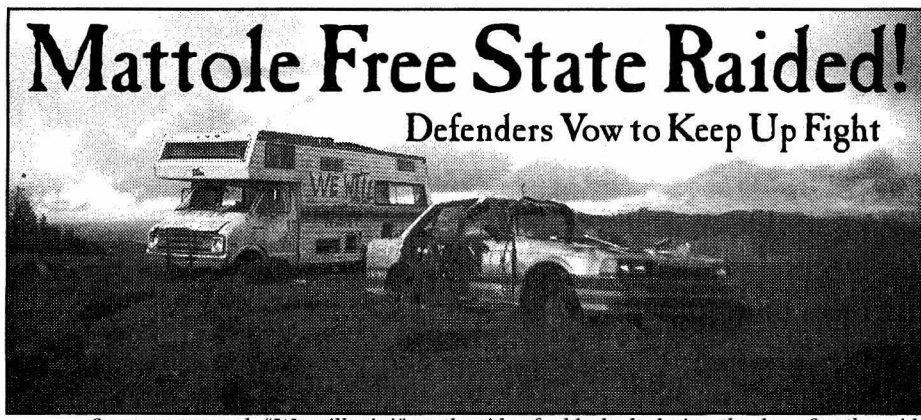


photo courtesy Mattole Forest Defenders

Someone sprayed, "We will win!" on the side of a blockade device, the day after the raid.

BY GUANO AND LADYBUG

The silence of the meadowed ridgelines and deep old-growth forest was shattered as the grizzled veterans of Northern California's Mattole Free State endured more than a week of raids by the infamous Humboldt County Sheriff's Department and Pacific Lumber (PL) Security. After 126 days of continuous blockading, the cops arrived to dismantle the elaborate barricade and lockdowns that had protected the largest stand of unprotected coastal old-growth Douglas fir forest left in the Pacific Northwest.

On April 3, the defenders of the Mattole were visited by 13 sheriff's deputies and Carl Anderson, the notorious head of PL Security who once tried to trademark the name Earth First!. The cops ransacked the defenders' food supply and destroyed one of the blockade devices. There were no arrests that day, and the sheriff's department was unsuccessful in disbanding the entire free state. Then on April 5, the posse returned armed with a Scotia Fire Department Search and Rescue vehicle equipped with various implements to cut, grind and hammer their way through whatever elaborate blockading devices stood in the way of the state-sanctioned timber harvest plan.

The deputies' arrival at 10 a.m. was spotted by local residents at an outer gate, giving activists time to get comfortable and locked down. Gear was stashed and two masked lookouts equipped with a cell phone and a video camera climbed a tree and posted themselves, giving critical first-hand accounts throughout the day. The cops rushed in and began to rip apart anything they could find, stumbling as they unsuccessfully chased many defenders through the woods. The search and rescue crews began to work on removing activists locked down inside the blue dragon, an old Honda Accord that had somehow found its final parking spot on Rainbow Ridge. They used the jaws-of-life to cut out one defender who was locked around the window post with a black bear—a lockbox made from a piece of pipe with a 90-degree bend in it. The cops then put him in their car with the black bear still on. Bringing out a jackhammer, they began removing a defender locked to a dragon. They jackhammered the concrete until they reached the pipe, and removed her with the pipe still attached. A Humboldt County Deputy apparently offered a lockdowner a Slim Fast chocolate shake if she would unlock. Another defender had her U-lock cut once but the cops could not get it off, and a locksmith removed it in jail. All three activists were arrested and taken to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility. The sheriff's department remained on the ridge all day, working until 1 a.m. to dismantle the road blockade. Although there were no more arrests, the deputies succeeded in temporarily removing the blockading devices from the road, clearing it for logging crews to pass.

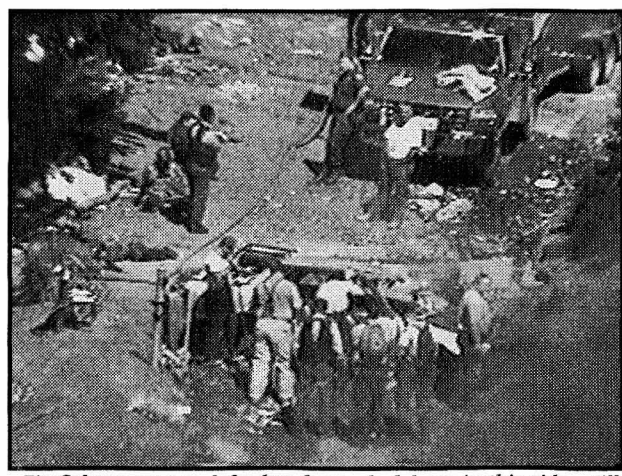


photo courtesy Mattole Forest Defenders

Firefighters remove defenders from a lockdown in this video still.

The next morning, a large contingent of Mattole residents and concerned citizens arose before dawn to blockade all the gates leading into the Mattole. Law enforcement personnel and timber workers did not attempt to enter the area that day. Every morning since, folks have monitored and blockaded the gates leading to the 14-mile deep free state. A spirited demonstration of 50 people took place in support of the jailed activists outside the Humboldt County Superior Courthouse and Correctional Facility on April 6. The drumming, singing and yelling of the folks outside brightened the spirits of their comrades inside. We await their arraignments and hopeful quick release from jail.

The Mattole, the "Hole In Headwaters" and other endangered old-growth groves are known as orphans of the Headwaters Deal—areas that Maxxam/PL has the right to log under their Habitat Conservation Plan. Eight timber harvest plans totaling around 400 acres have been filed for the Mattole alone, and within eight years the Maxxam Sustained Yield Plan calls for almost total liquidation of 3,000 acres of old growth. Outside of direct action, the Mattole community is organizing a citizens' committee that aims to work out an acquisition agreement with Maxxam. So far the company has chosen to ignore calls for a moratorium on logging and continues to maintain a crisis atmosphere. Charles Hurwitz always did like holding old-growth forests hostage, driving up the price while slowly fragmenting their integrity with clearcut after clearcut.

A large committed crew of people remain in the Mattole, determined to stop the desecration of this special place. Although no timber fallers were brought in during the raids, it's only a matter of time before Maxxam-hired Columbia Logging crews return. Defenders are working to rebuild the blockades, and help is always needed.

For more information, contact the Mattole Forest Defenders, POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518; (707) 825-6598; www.mattoledefense.org.

Maxxam SLAPPs Mattole Defenders

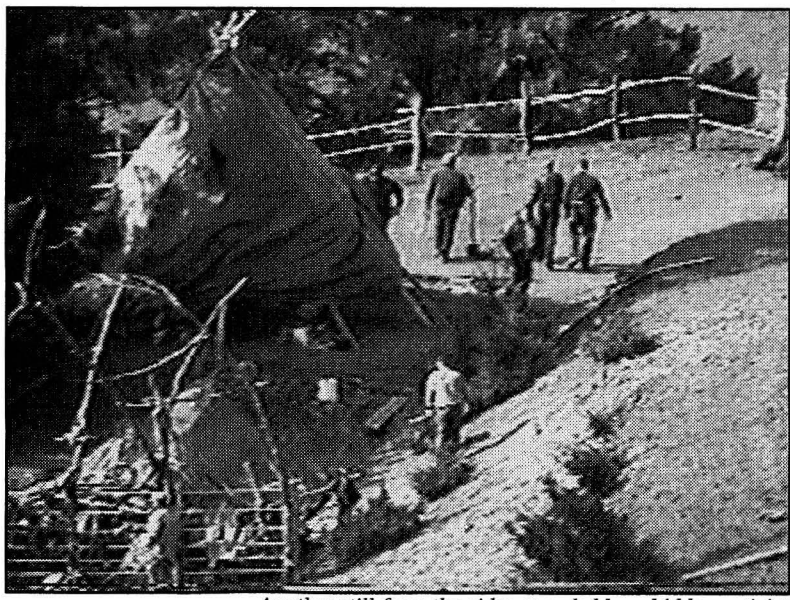


photo courtesy Mattole Forest Defenders

Another still from the video recorded by a hidden activist

BY KAREN PICKETT

Pacific Lumber Company (PL) filed a strategic lawsuit against public participation (SLAPP) against activists and residents protesting logging of old-growth forests in California's Mattole River basin on April 6. PL, joined by Columbia Helicopter Company of Oregon, Steve Wills Trucking, Lewis Logging, Russ Ranch and Timber Company and its owner Lane Russ, rancher Lotta Vevoda and Scotia Pacific Company, filed a civil lawsuit April 6 in Humboldt Superior Court. "Northcoast Earth First!," "Mattole Forest Defenders," 10 individuals and "Does 1 - 200" were named as defendants.

SLAPP suits constrain individuals' ability to protest the activities of corporations that are threatening or damaging to them, their community and the environment—basically legal assaults on first amendment rights. Given that the targets of such lawsuits are often people of sparse monetary resources, the purpose is clearly harassment, intimidation and dissuasion of potential involvement in a campaign. SLAPP suits have been around for a couple of decades, targeting activists fighting developers, toxic polluters and liquidation logging in what often ends up being a war of resources.

PL's lawsuit cites acts of trespass, erection of blockades and other protest activities on several timber harvest plans (THPs) filed in the last year by PL in the Mattole River Watershed. Those working to save the salmon streams and hillsides of the Mattole have spent a lot of time petitioning agencies involved in the approval process, filing legal challenges and coordinating acquisition efforts as well as taking part in direct actions. Some of those named in the lawsuit have meticulously worked through the system and not participated in any civil disobedience. The diversity of defendants could ultimately work against PL in that a broadly cast net has less credibility. There is also the double-jeopardy bind protesters are placed in, given that they are already subject to a tumble through the court system and penalties for criminal charges when they trespass onto PL property.

Harassment lawsuits are not a new tactic for PL. In the mid- and late '80s, PL filed harassment lawsuits against several groups of Earth First!ers. PL never did get much out of those lawsuits, and they won't this time. Like the Cove/ Mallard SLAPP suit of the '90s, the complaint names "anyone working in concert with the named defendants." In response to PL's quote to the media that that includes "anyone who so much as sends a chocolate bar to the Mattole Forest Defenders," a creative supporter has put out a call for others to "join the growing Doe family" by sending candy bars (see announcement page 71).

Some suspect revenge as PL's motive, since this lawsuit comes close on the heels of a $3.3-million settlement PL paid to residents of Stafford, California, after a logging-caused landslide. This buried seven homes, caused others to be uninhabitable and brought grief to the tiny rural community, inhabited mostly by former or current timber workers who filed a lawsuit against the company seeking relief for their losses.

photo courtesy Mattole Forest Defenders

The morning after the raid—time to rebuild

This action is clearly designed to quash dissent and protest against PL, subsidiary of the notorious Maxxam Corporation which has in the last decade been found to be in violation of a vast array of state, federal and local laws, ranging from the Clean Water Act to labor laws.

Current legal actions against Maxxam/PL include an environmental lawsuit charging one million violations of the Clean Water Act, a wrongful death lawsuit concerning the death of David "Gypsy" Chain, claims by the US Treasury's Office of Thrift Supervision concerning a $1.6-billion bailout of a savings and loan controlled by Maxxam CEO Charles Hurwitz and continuing challenges to several of its THPs.

This is a company that has no qualms about flouting the law. Through the Headwaters Deal, PL got a Habitat Conservation Plan to shield them from the Endangered Species Act, and now they want a SLAPP suit to shield them from protesters. They seek to chill dissent, but they forget that tens of thousands of people have showed up to protest their logging activities. They can't silence that many voices.

Dear Brothers, Sisters, Friends and Supporters,

I know many of you are already familiar with the FTAA, NAFTA, the WTO, the IMF and the World Bank. I know many of you are working hard to expose what these organizations and agreements are all about and how they are taking over the world and violating human rights, labor rights, Indigenous rights, environmental protections and sovereignty rights, in each and every place they set foot. Therefore, what I would like to address is the bigger picture: the real roots of the FTAA and ways which we can obstruct it.

Where did the FTAA get its start? Not in a conference room and not in an office. The FTAA is a continuation of the imperialism that began thousands of years ago in Europe with the domination of Indigenous Peoples whose self-subsisting land and way of life were taken away so that greedy feudalists could reign. Ever since, Indigenous Peoples have been forced into submission, if not obliteration, in the name of civilization and progress all over the globe. Here we are in the 21st century, and the world has far from benefited. I do not need to explain the Earth's devastation, the overwhelming poverty and the wars that have resulted from practices that put profit before the very survival of Mother Earth and the human race.

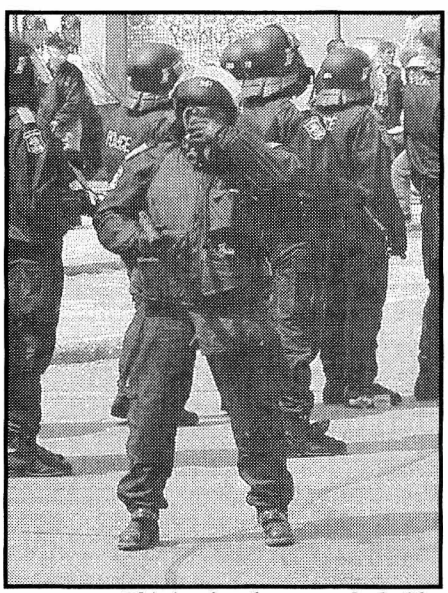
Advocates of the FTAA would not dare refer to their policies as forms of colonization or feudalism because these practices are now widely scorned. Instead they will justify their actions in the name of "development" for the "poor" countries of Central and South America. Development? What the first peoples of the Americas need is "recovery," not development. Recovery from the very same colonization, domination and genocide that multi-national corporations want to perpetuate for their own gains today.

Now we must continue, not only to condemn the practices of these trade organizations and policies, but also to implement and support means of self-sufficiency both in our communities and abroad. We must support Indigenous movements like that of the Zapatistas and the U'wa who are fighting to maintain their land base and self-sufficient way of life. We must support the small farmers and farm workers who provide their communities with healthy foods to eat. We must create and support innovative projects on Indian reservations, inner cities and third world countries that promote self-sufficiency and better living conditions.

We must unite beyond the boundaries of race, class, belief systems and age that all too often divide us. If we do not unite, we will be defeated one by one, just as they destroyed the American Indian Movement who fought so hard for Native sovereignty; the Black Panthers, who developed much needed community-based programs and struggled for self-determination; the movements in Central America that sought to implement schools, social programs and land reform; and the unions who fought for humane working conditions. Most important, we must break down the barriers that divide us in our own backyards.

We need to develop a global culture that teaches us, as my ancestors did, to think carefully about the impact our actions and policies will have on Mother Earth, each other and future generations before we act upon them. If we can do this, then surely we can win.

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse,
—LEONARD PELTIER



This is what democracy looks like.

Welcome to the Peoples' Summit of the Americas. Your opinion is very important to us.

Non á la FTAA/ZLEA!

Stop Press! Our Correspondent Dodges Tear Gas and Bullets to Deliver Breaking News from QC

BY ASANTÉ RIVERWIND

Views of FTAA/ZLEA through the haze and explosions of tear and pepper gas, amidst the hail of plastic bullets...

Welcome to the alphabet soup world of corporate dreams. Dreams that are nightmares for this living Earth. The alphabet soups of NAFTA, GATT, MAI and WTO have once again metamorphosed, this time into the "Free Trade Area of the Americas" (FTAA, or ZLEA in Quebec's French). And Quebec City (QC), Canada, is where the corporate globalizers have chosen to hold their FTAA meeting. Unable in Seattle to establish WTO's dominance over the entire Earth, they have trimmed their megalomaniac dreams in half: The FTAA would attempt to establish corporate rule over *only* the entire Western Hemisphere, with the exception of "undemocratic" Cuba.

In Quebec, they took something else from Seattle: the globalizers have parasited and adapted our plan of action that successfully shut down the WTO. In Seattle, activists established and held perimeter blockades to stop delegates from being able to meet. In Quebec, the FTAA, through its "Darth Vader" police thugs, has created its own perimeter blockade—with the intent to keep the public and activists out of what they still have the audacity to call "the People's Summit of the Americas." The meetings were held within old Quebec's walled city. But, still insecure within this ancient fortress wall, they built a concrete and steel chain-link fence around an even larger section of old Quebec's downtown.

Arriving in Quebec, the spirit was high among both local activists as well as those making it here successfully through the insecurity gauntlets of the national borders. The concrete and chain-link fence wall appears too flimsy to be the "impenetrable barrier" declared by FTAA authorities. It is decorated with many colorful placards, ribbons, banners, symbols, brassieres, balloons and passionate statements of resistance and revolution. Everywhere the sentiment is high that the wall must come down and that the FTAA must be stopped!

This sentiment exploded on April 20, as thousands began converging at Lavell University, the small crowd becoming a vast sea of humans, signs, costumes and a few giant puppets. Plastic buckets resonate with drums, horns and the occasional flute. Soon, as a critical mass of thousands is reached, the gathering takes to the streets. The march divides in two at the onset. Some of those with children, along with ones who do not want to risk confrontation and gas, take a different route. The rest of us, a few thousand strong, take the entire street for blocks in a long march towards the infamous wall, behind which stood hundreds of helmeted, shield-carrying Vaderite thugs. As we near the wall, another large march merges with ours to the sounds of jubilant whoops and shouts. Reaching the wall, without

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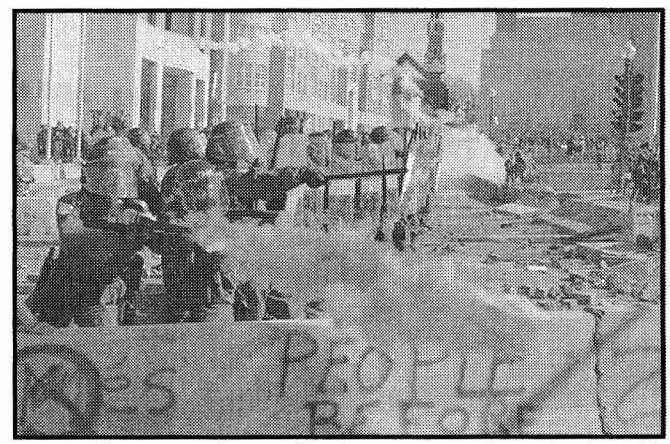


photo by Devin

The amount of gas used by the cops surpassed even Seattle, and is believed to be the most ever used on protesters in North American history.

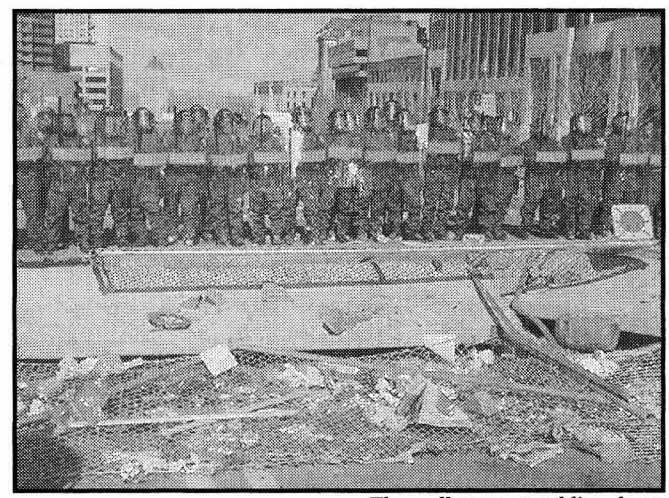
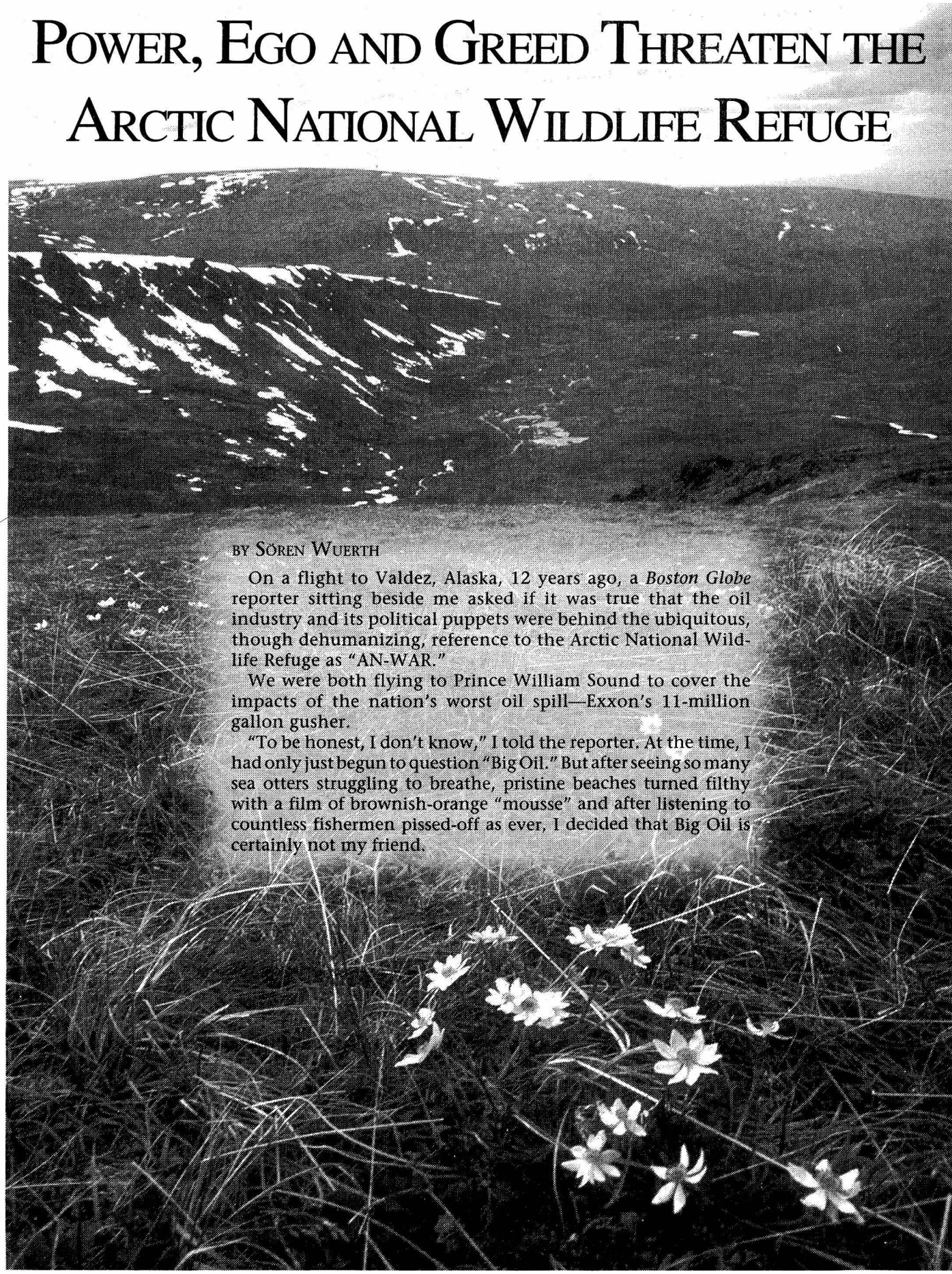


photo courtesy Indymedia

The wall comes tumbling down.

Whatever you do, do it with all your heart.

Power, Ego and Greed Threaten the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge



BY SÖREN WUERTH

On a flight to Valdez, Alaska, 12 years ago, a *Boston Globe* reporter sitting beside me asked if it was true that the oil industry and its political puppets were behind the ubiquitous, though dehumanizing, reference to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as "AN-WAR."

We were both flying to Prince William Sound to cover the impacts of the nation's worst oil spill—Exxon's 11-million gallon gusher.

"To be honest, I don't know," I told the reporter. At the time, I had only just begun to question "Big Oil." But after seeing so many sea otters struggling to breathe, pristine beaches turned filthy with a film of brownish-orange "mousse" and after listening to countless fishermen pissed-off as ever, I decided that Big Oil is certainly not my friend.

photo by Rudy Wittstirk

Ten years later, I walked across the Arctic ice pack dressed in a heavy parka toward a man-made island. I carried, along with another Alaskan—a commercial fisher and grandmother—a sign that mentioned something about global warming.

We had gotten no more than a hundred yards when security police and local government cops grabbed us, put on handcuffs and shoved us into a school bus. British Petroleum's Northstar site, the first permanent offshore oil drilling structure in the Arctic Ocean, didn't take kindly to strangers.

Within two months, more than a dozen Greenpeace protesters had been arrested crossing some imaginary line on the Arctic Ocean. A six-mile-long pipeline connecting the Northstar facility to land has a one-in-four chance of spilling oil, according to environmental studies. An oil spill in the Arctic Ocean would be impossible to clean up.

Driving back toward Prudhoe Bay in the bus, I watched as large backhoes, straddling the six-mile-long hole in the ice, clawed a sub-ocean trench where they would lay their line. A jail in Prudhoe was the closest I would ever get to the coastal plain of "AN-WAR."

The Arctic Refuge is a wilderness area the size of Maine that was established in 1980, in an eleventh-hour act signed by Jimmy Carter. What to do with its coastal plain, a broad expanse of tundra and wetland, was left to Congress. While the area has a promising supply of oil in Big Oil's greedy eyes (that is, about a six-month national supply at best), the coastal plain is also a wildlife sanctuary and the nursing ground for the migratory porcupine caribou herd.

When I complained to an oil industry analyst that so much attention and environmentalists' resources went to the refuge, while other places were being polluted, drilled and otherwise despoiled, he told me the coastal plain cannot be compared with another place on the planet. "It is unique in its incredible biodiversity of wildlife," he said. "You have polar bears, wolves, musk oxen and caribou all surviving in the same relatively small area."

In the late '80s, I wrote a long article for a journalism class at the University of Alaska-Anchorage that analyzed caribou density maps. Overlay caribou calving maps on top of maps showing where oil companies would drill and you have a perfect match. Aerial surveys showing where the caribou congregated were mysteriously burned in a fire.

I also learned that the porcupine caribou herd was unique among caribou in that it migrated in an immense sea of mammals in a U-shaped arc from northwestern Canada south below the refuge and up to the coastal plain, where, on the windy, mosquito-free coast, they dropped their calves.

A few years later, a fellow student and I visited Arctic Village, in the southern corner of the refuge, as a research project for another class. What we quickly learned by talking with the Gwich'in people is that the issue of whether to allow oil drilling in the Arctic is much more than an environmental issue; it is a human rights issue. The Gwich'in, or "the Caribou People," have been living around and north of the Yukon for 10,000 years. "Like the buffalo to the Sioux the caribou is to the Gwich'in," says Sarah James, an international Gwich'in spokesperson. Their connection with their land was obvious as we watched in amazement as a local fisherman caught whitefish from a hole in the ice at minus 40 degrees using his bare hands.

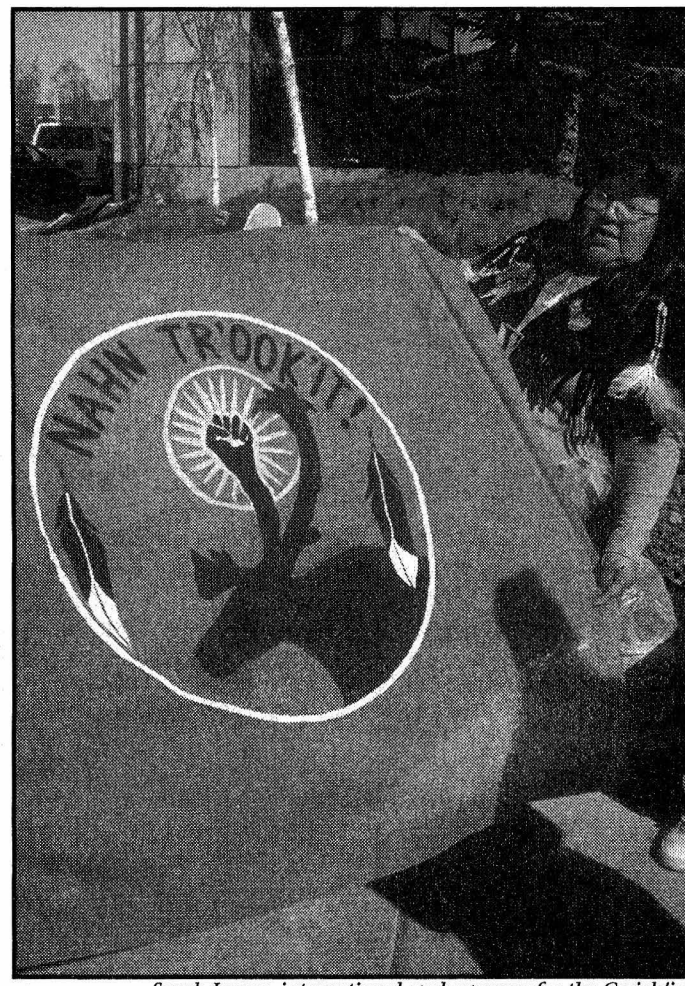


photo by Sören Wuerth, AK Action Center

Sarah James, international spokesperson for the Gwich'in

We were taken to a shed that stored frozen carcasses of caribou. About 90 percent of the protein in the Gwich'in diet comes from caribou. The community shares its food: The first caribou shot go to those most in need, we were told. "Our society was set up to discourage everything your society promotes, namely power, ego and greed," observed Lincoln Tritt, a Gwich'in musician, writer and philosopher.

"Our society was set up to discourage everything your society promotes, namely power, ego and greed," observed Lincoln Tritt, a Gwich'in musician, writer and philosopher.

Over the years I still come back to Lincoln's words, and I have the oil industry to thank for reminding me of the pervasiveness of power, ego and greed. Oil companies in Alaska make, on average, $10,000 per minute in net profit from North Slope production. How much is ever going to be enough?

Meanwhile, Big Oil spends millions of dollars annually on local in-your-face advertising. (BP's latest gimmick is a new, yuppie Volkswagen beetle, embossed with their flashy, light green logo, shaped like the sun. Their TV commercials show the car careening down deserted highways.)

While Big Oil has succeeded in buying many Alaskan politicians—especially our congressional delegation—they still haven't convinced many Alaskans that they are, in the

continued on next page

Government Cartographer Fired for Posting Caribou Maps on Website

In a blatant show of bowing down to Big Oil interests, the US Geological Survey fired cartographer Ian Thomas on March 11 for posting a map locating caribou calving areas in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR).

Although Thomas swears that when he put the map on the Internet he had no idea where the Bush administration wanted to drill for oil, the map depicted the area of ANWR where caribou most often go in spring to give birth—a narrow strip along Alaska's northern coast, adjacent to the Canadian border, known as Area 1002. This is precisely the strip of land that the new administration has proposed to open for exploration by the oil companies that backed Bush's election campaign.

Thomas' map appeared on the internet just as Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton was being briefed on the Arctic refuge's ecology and showed that the supposedly small area under consideration was critical to the refuge's wildlife.

In her briefing on the wildlife refuge, Norton was told that caribou tend to stay at least four kilometers from any human infrastructure. According to briefing papers obtained by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, the interior secretary was also informed that: "When naturally restricted from the coastal plain, calf survival averages about 14 percent lower than when calving occurs primarily on the coastal plain."

For that reason, while Area 1002 is only eight percent of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, it is an important component of the biological integrity for the entire refuge.

Despite this unambiguous warning, Norton told an appreciative audience of oil executives that she had returned from the Arctic refuge more convinced than ever that drilling could proceed with minimal impact.

For more information and to view the map, visit www.peer.org.

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words of our Democratic, oil-sponsored governor, "good partners."

In the early '90s, conservative Governor Walter Hickel led a much-publicized fight to get the recalcitrant oil industry to pay taxes owed to the state. Then the oil industry financed a campaign to raid the Alaska "Permanent Fund" program, an investment account designed to return each Alaskan a share of the fund's interest. Last year, each Alaskan took home $1,983. Rather than increase taxes on the oil industry, state politicians wanted to tax this program to finance spending. Alaskans overwhelmingly voted "No" to the idea. Next BP tried to illegally takeover Arco to monopolize production on the North Slope. Many Alaskans were outraged by that prospect, and the Federal Trade Commission forced the company to divest. Exxon continues to delay payment of $5 billion it owes to communities and fishermen in Prince William Sound, and they arbitrarily laid off hundreds of workers during corporate downsizing. Furthermore, Big Oil was recently attacked for posting a racist sign along a busy Anchorage road relating "Anti-ANWR" supporters to Arab people.

Now, along comes an oil cartel that includes president Boy George, Cheney (the $36-million oilman), Norton, Big Oil and numerous underlings promoting development in "ANWAR." While our oil-backed congressional delegation says Alaska is pro-development, up here, not as many people are convinced as they would hope. Many Alaskans don't trust Big Oil for reasons mentioned above.

So, for many Alaskans, government employees fired for exposing facts like caribou calving areas, posturing in Congress, the politics of oil and the environment and the tromping of Native rights to land and subsistence are all old hat. Like other icons of environmental debate, we know the arguments to develop are embarrassed by the open page of history. But at least for now, people who see the Arctic refuge as something more than a dehumanizing acronym have the majority of votes in Congress, and it looks like human rights, compassion and reason are winning the battle over power, ego and greed.

For more information, contact the Alaska Action Center, POB 100911, Anchorage, AK 99510-0911; (907) 563-2784; akaction@alaska.com; www.alaskaactioncenter.org.

Sören Wuerth is a substitute teacher as well as the program director of the Alaska Action Center, a community activism group.

The Taku Watershed Needs Your Help

Mine Threatens 4.5 Million Acres of Wilderness Along the Alaska-British Columbia Border

BY SARAH KEENEY

The proposed reopening of a multi-metal mine, construction of destructive roads and logging operations threaten the largest unprotected wild watershed on the west coast of North America. Located on the Alaska-British Columbia border near Juneau, Alaska, the Taku River watershed covers 4.5 million acres of untamed wilderness (roughly the size of the state of Massachusetts). The Taku River watershed contains habitats representing five biogeoclimatic zones, ranging from high plateaus to lush coastal temperate rainforests. This world-class watershed supports large, healthy populations of grizzly and black bear, Dall's sheep, moose, caribou, mountain goats, bald eagles and countless species of migratory birds.

The Taku's transboundary bioregion sustains many families in both the US and Canada. Today, the Taku River Tlingit people—the Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN) in Canada and the Douglas Indian Association, a federally recognized tribe in the US—claim the Taku watershed as their traditional territory. Communities in British Columbia and Southeast Alaska, Taku River landowners and commercial fishermen in both countries depend upon the rich, wild Taku River.

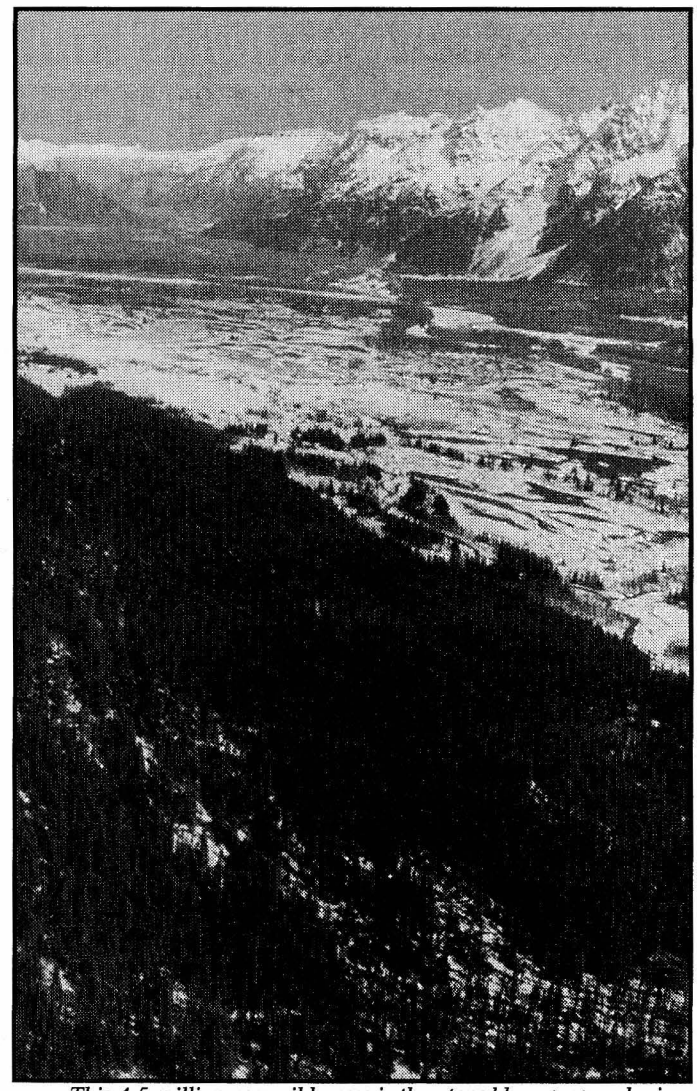
This incredible area is threatened by a proposal to re-open the Tulsequah Chief mine, located in northern British Columbia about 40 miles northeast of Juneau, on the Tulsequah River, near its confluence with the Taku.

Redfern Resources, a junior mining company from Vancouver, has proposed building a 100-mile access road that would slice deep into the heart of the Taku River watershed. Despite previous assurances from British Columbia that the road would be put to bed after the mine's life expires, the province has never decommissioned a new road of this size. Furthermore, current provincial law makes decommissioning illegal. Other industrial development projects would become economically feasible with this road access; miners have already staked claims along the proposed road route. Passing through treacherous avalanche zones, the proposed road would cross hundreds of wild salmon spawning streams. Sedimentation and siltation from road construction, and runoff from the Tulsequah project and future development would devastate fish populations.

In 10 years, the mine would produce 6.7 million tons of tailings, only half of which would be backfilled into the mine. Redfern plans to store the other half in an earthquake and avalanche-prone glacial flood plain adjacent to the mine. Additionally, acid mine drainage from the abandoned mine continues to leach sulfuric acid into salmon-bearing streams. Re-opening the mine jeopardizes the future of this valuable watershed because mine activity will result in chronic discharge of heavy metals, acids, petroleum products and other toxins into the drainage for years to come.

The State of Alaska fears the mine and road will destroy lucrative sockeye, coho and Chinook salmon fisheries. Current healthy salmon runs provide jobs in commercial, sport and charter fishing. More than two million fish are caught each year from this drainage and contribute $10 million to the Alaska economy. The US Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior and State Department have voiced serious concerns regarding the road and mine. This project may also violate obligations outlined in the recently renegotiated Pacific Salmon Treaty, which calls for each country to use its best efforts to protect Pacific salmon habitat. As negotiations between Canada and the US continue, US federal agencies, the State of Alaska, Alaska Natives, fishermen and conservationists are pushing for a referral of this issue to the International Joint Commission (IJC). Set up under the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 between the US and Canada, the IJC seeks to resolve these types of controversial border issues. An IJC review could provide a more impartial, international, scientific review of the entire project and development in the watershed.

After the province's controversial environmental assessment process granted tentative approval for the project, TRTFN took the province of British Columbia to court. Its lawsuit alleged the entire permitting process lacked necessary information for an informed decision, and that the project violates the constitutionally protected rights of the Tlingit to hunt and fish in the region. In June 2000, a BC Supreme Court Judge temporarily halted this controversial proposal. In a major victory for the TRTFN, Madame Justice Kirkpatrick quashed the BC government's approval of the mining project, referring it to the original project review committee and directed the committee to "meaningfully address" Tlingit concerns. The province appealed the decision and continues to press for full-scale development.



This 4.5-million acre wilderness is threatened by a proposed mine.

photo courtesy Southeast Alaska Conservation Council

What you can do:

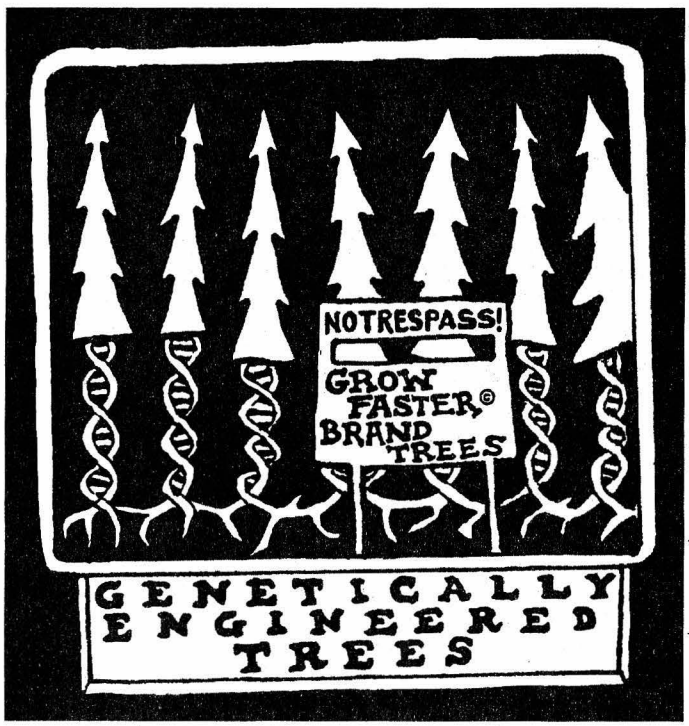
Contact the Governor of Alaska and thank him for his strong support for maintaining a healthy Taku watershed. Write to Alaska Governor Tony Knowles, POB 110001, Juneau, AK 99811-0001.

Contact the Secretary of State and demand that he press Canada to fulfill its obligations under the Pacific Salmon Treaty and the Boundary Waters Treaty, and to officially request an IJC referral. Write to Secretary of State Colin Powell, Department of State, 2210 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20520.

For more information, contact Sarah Keeney, Water Quality/Mining Organizer, Southeast Alaska Conservation Council, 419 6th Street, Ste 328, Juneau, AK 99801; (907) 586-6942; sarah@seacc.org or Don Weir, President, Taku Wilderness Association, POB 321, Atlin BC VOW 1AO, Canada; (250) 651-0047; dweir17@attglobal.net.

Concerned Students and Alumni Destroy GE Trees at Oregon State University

In mid-March, concerned Oregon State University (OSU) students and alumni targeted three genetically engineered (GE) test sites where poplar and cottonwood trees are being grown by Steve Strauss, a forestry professor at OSU and the founder of the Tree Genetic Engineering Research Cooperative (TGERC). According to the activists' communiqué, the test plots "at these places were independently assessed and found to be a dangerous experiment of unknown genetic consequences."



artwork by Keltben Grifter

OSU is the leading university in the world for GE tree research, receiving funding from the US Department of Energy, the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, International Paper, Weyerhaeuser, Boise Cascade, Georgia-Pacific, Union Camp, MacMillan Bloedel, Monsanto and Shell, among others.

TGERC scientists are responsible for researching and testing trees genetically modified for increased fiber production, herbicide tolerance—engineering Monsanto's Roundup Ready herbicide into the cells of poplar trees—and resistance to fungus and insects.

This action by the OSU students comes just weeks after the Earth Liberation Front burned a research cotton gin in Visalia, California (see *EF!J* March-April 2001). Since November 1998, there have been more than 40 anti-genetic direct actions in North America. The direct actionists maintain that biotechnology is completely unnecessary and is being developed at the expense of human and ecological health solely to increase the profits of large multinational corporations. With the North American growing season at hand, it is likely that direct actions against facilities producing and testing genetically engineered organisms will resume.

Concerning the questions about hybrids in general: The mass replacement of native forests with ecologically unstable monoculture hybrid tree farms is a gamble with terrifying consequences. The only selection traits bred into these hybrids are for economic gain, therefore the non-GE hybrid tree farms are an ecological threat and, in the case of TGERC especially, are a legitimate target on their own.

For information on TGERC see www.fsl.orst.edu/tgerc/genfor2.htm.

—GENETIX ALERT PRESS OFFICE

OSU Communiqué

Open letter to Steve Strauss, Oregon State University forestry professor and founder of the Tree Genetic Engineering Research Cooperative:

Dear Steve,

During mid-March three of your genetically engineered (GE) tree research sites were visited by night. The test plots of *Populus* trees (poplars and cottonwoods) at these places were independently assessed and found to be a dangerous experiment of unknown genetic consequences.

Therefore, we ringbarked or cut down 90 percent of your trees at OSU's site at the Peavey Arboretum Rd. (off Hwy 90W north of Corvallis, Oregon). At OSU's tract near Half Moon Bend of the Willamette River (just south of Garden Ave. off Hwy 20 between Corvallis and Albany), we eliminated 60 percent of the trees. Lastly, every tree was cut in one test plot at OSU's Agricultural Experiment Station in Klamath Falls, Oregon (on Washburn Way, across from the Kingsley Field). In all, over 1,200 of your GE research trees were destroyed.

Some of the trees we targeted may have been hybrids and not technically GE. However, your Tree Genetic Engineering Research Cooperative (TGERC) focuses on hybrid poplars as its method for delivering modified genes into its frankentrees. All of the program's research on the *Populus* genus is used for the goal of patenting and commercializing GE trees.

Steve, your exploits with TGERC are socially and environmentally unacceptable. You claim to be undertaking basic independent studies to address environmental concerns, but that claim is belied by the millions of dollars your program receives from huge timber corporations to develop fast growing supertrees for them.

The expansion of GE from agriculture to industrial resource extraction, as with trees for timber production, exhibits the slippery slope of biotechnology permeating every part of human interaction with the rest of our natural world.

Our goal is to do to TGERC what others did to AstraZeneca's program.

You may recall your thoughts about the event: "These environmental extremists are unfortunately making us very paranoid," said Steve Strauss, forestry professor at OSU (Reuters News Service feature article, "Eco-warriors Stunt US Biotech Tree Research," March 2, 2000). Well, Steve, as the saying goes, just because you're paranoid, it doesn't mean that we're not out to get your research.

Monsanto Presents: The Porken

The vice president of Monsanto Canada, Ray Mowling, recently held a press conference at the University of Guelph to announce Monsanto's latest product of food biotechnology. The Porken, a small pig-like creature with wings, is the product of a pig genetically engineered with a chicken.

Developed with funding from the federal government, "The Porken will revolutionize the way Canadians eat breakfast," stated Mowling.

According to Stephen Yarrow of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, commercial approval of the Porken is expected quickly. "We have deemed that if a pig and chicken could produce an offspring naturally that the Porken would likely be substantially equivalent to it, and therefore no human health testing will be required."

Monsanto Canada's Director of Risk Communications, Professor Douglas Powell from the University of Guelph, stated, "Today is a great day for all Canadians: The Porken will feed the world's hungry, eliminate the need for pesticides, reverse global warming, and will undoubtedly cure cancer and AIDS."

The *National Post's* resident ecologist, Terrence Corcoran, wrote that Monsanto should win a Nobel Prize for this accomplishments. "The world would be at a loss if it weren't for innovative companies like Monsanto: Who else would try to genetically engineer a pig with a chicken?" insisted Corcoran.

Gord Surgenor of Ontario Agri-Food Technologies, a government-funded Biotech lobby group, stated that "Canadians want choice" and therefore Monsanto will be pushing for mandatory labeling.

Joyce Groote of BIOTECanada, another government-funded biotech lobby group, is thrilled with the federal government's decision to waive further testing. "This new product is the most tested Porken in the history of the world. Consumers should feel safe about this."

For more information, contact Monsanto at www.tao.ca/~ban or www.primalseeds.org.

Students Fight Biotech at Claremont Colleges

BY ABIGAIL SINGER

At 3:30 a.m. on March 26, students blocked all entrances to the Claremont University Consortium (CUC)—the administrative building for all of the Claremont Colleges—by locking down to concrete barrels in defense of the Bernard Field Station (BFS).

BFS is an 86-acre educational resource containing coastal sage, the endangered ecosystem that once covered the Los Angeles Basin. In addition to serving the colleges' biology and environmental studies classes, it provides local junior high kids, some of whom have had no exposure to Southern California's natural environment, with an opportunity to experience native eco-systems. The field station is also the former village site of the Tongva people, and is a critical part of their history, culture and spirituality.

Students, faculty and community members have fought to save this amazing resource since CUC first announced plans eight years ago to construct the Keck Graduate Institute (KGI), a new graduate school serving the biotech industry. Both the college administration and the City of Claremont have consistently ignored surveys, petitions, faculty resolutions and enormous public outcry from the community. It should be noted that CUC's board is comprised of the college presidents and trustee board chairs, several of whom work or invest in transnational corporations and financial groups in the biotech industry. With all other avenues exhausted, Students for the Field Station took nonviolent direct action to save some of Los Angeles' last open space.

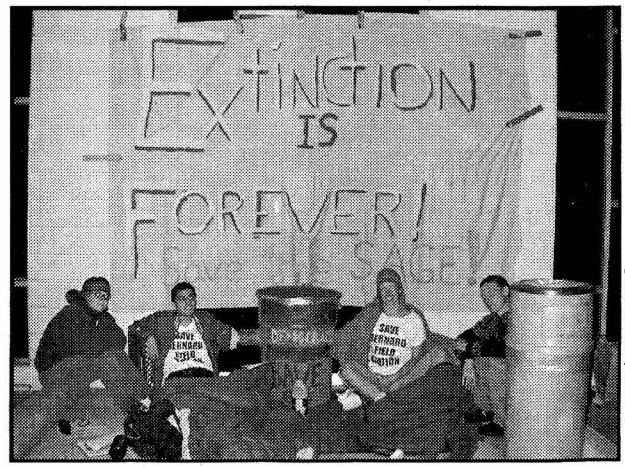


photo courtesy SFS

Students make sure it's not business-as-usual for biotech.

Our demand was simple: We wanted to have genuine communication with CUC about the issue of preserving all of BFS. CUC, however, refused to have a dialogue about anything other than the return of their building. On March 26, CUC's Corporate Executive Officer Brenda Barnham-Hill circled the occupied building, handing out suspension notices to the roughly 130 students blocking the entrances. Students were handed thick stacks of paper and asked to "take one and pass it on." Although the notices announced that students were at that point suspended and subject to arrest, there were no names on the notices, leaving many questioning how the CUC intended to enforce the suspensions.

Continuing the occupation, students remained locked down through the night. Just after 7 a.m.

Frontlines

Idaho GE Research Building Sabotaged

Opponents of genetic engineering vandalized a biotechnology research building in Idaho, resulting in an estimated $20,000 in damage. The building, currently under construction at the University of Idaho, is part of the University's strategy to become a regional leader in agricultural biotechnology. On March 5, messages denouncing genetic engineering and the current approach to food production were found on the walls and windows of this three-story research center. A group calling itself Night Action Kids (NAK) claimed credit for the action.

In a statement to the media, NAK stated: "We are alarmed at the growing number of GE crops available in the United States. The University of Idaho has charged right into the fray, with little concern for bioethical issues or long-term consequences related to genetic engineering and biotechnology. In our spray messages inside the building, we have warned the University of Idaho 'We Will Unleash Nature's Potential.'

"Either redefine your philosophy regarding progress, biotechnology and life forms, or expect further action from us."

Brazilian Women Farmers Protest GM Food

Women farmers throughout Brazil demonstrated on International Women's Day (March 7) to protest worldwide neoliberal economic policies. Some 700 women members of Brazil's Landless Rural Workers Movement (MST) occupied a McDonald's restaurant in Porto Alegre, 1,000 miles south of Brasilia. They burned flags bearing the fast-food chain's logo, criticized economic globalization and called the Brazilian government a slave to "neoliberal market fundamentalism."

The protest was partly inspired by the anti-globalization efforts of French activist Jose Bové, a sheep farmer who ransacked a McDonald's restaurant and destroyed genetically modified crops (GM) in France. He was arrested in Brazil last January after he joined the MST in a massive protest and sabotage/occupation of a Monsanto GM research facility (see *EF!J*, March-April 2001). On March 7, some 2,000 women blocked access to a supermarket in Florianopolis, 800 miles south of Brasilia, claiming it sold GM food. Also in Belo Horizonte, some 380 miles southeast of Brasilia, a group of women protested in front of the local city council chambers demanding that the government dramatically alter its agricultural policies.

the next morning, police cars started arriving at the scene. Barnham-Hill led dozens of riot police (reinforcements from neighboring cities and from the LA County Sheriff's Department) to the different doors and issued students a two-minute warning to disperse. Nine students holding soft blockades were then dragged into police vans, and the concrete barrels were dollied or fork-lifted away from the doors while the students, still locked down, were carried alongside them.

The nine students were released later that afternoon, and the encampment on CUC's lawn continued throughout the week. Teach-ins, rallies and trainings culminated on the afternoon of March 26 in a march through the campuses and a message to college presidents that intimidation will not stop students from organizing, and that the struggle to save the field station is far from over.

Students who were arrested have a court date on May 1 for trespassing. Only Scripps and Pomona Colleges are following through with the judiciary process for suspension, and widespread faculty support for the students makes suspension at these schools highly unlikely. In fact, CUC is coming under increasing fire from all of the college faculties for the manner in which they handled the protest, and many are beginning to question the way the colleges are run. Students for the Field Station is still working to save it from development, and will continue to do so until this invaluable piece of land is preserved forever. No compromise!

For more information, visit www.studentBFS.org or www.keckgrad.com.

GE Food is Actually Quite Good for You...

artwork by Julie Generic

Anti-GM Protesters Blockade Sainsbury's Depots

On the morning of February 22, protesters blockaded at least four Sainsbury's regional distribution centers around England, preventing them from supplying Sainsbury's supermarkets with genetically modified (GM)-fed animal produce. Sainsbury's is a major UK supermarket chain.

The protesters targeted Sainsbury's because of its failure to follow recent moves by other supermarket chains in announcing a date by which all of its own brand of meat, dairy, egg and fish products will be from animals raised on a GM-free diet.

The protesters used various means of blockading, including climbing on top of lorries and using bicycle locks to secure themselves to lorries and gates, with banners and costumes to highlight the issue to Sainsbury's workers.

Seventy-five percent of the world's GM crop acreage is grown to feed animals and then enters the food chain via these products. Although most British supermarkets have removed GM direct ingredients, little attention has been paid to animal feed entering the food chain. Sixty-seven percent of people in a recent independent poll said that they were opposed to farm animals being fed GM crops.

This year, for the first time since the introduction of GM crops, planted acreage looks set to decrease compared to last year. After the Starlink scandal in US, Bosnia recently refused 40,000 tons of GE maize sent as aid by the US.

Billboards Improved in Idaho

Early on the morning of April 8, two Idaho Forest Products Commission (IDFC) billboards were altered in Moscow, Idaho. The signs honoring the upcoming Arbor Day now read, *"Plant a Tree for Arbor Day, We'll Log 18 Million More"* and include a design reading *"Forest Raper"* that bears a striking similarity to the Forest Service's logo. The billboards originally read, *"We'll Plant 18 Million More."*

The Guerilla Advertising Contingent (GAC) is responsible for the improvements, both located on State Highway 8.

An anonymous GAC member explains the group's motivations: "The IDFC Arbor Day campaign is a sham—nothing but corporate greenwashing. By participating in a high profile media campaign such as this, they mislead the public by portraying themselves as environmentally-friendly tree planters. Simply planting tree seedlings does not recreate an ecosystem destroyed by logging."

Since its inception in June, 2000, the GAC has liberated three billboards previously in topics related to electoral politics and the prison-industrial complex, as well as improved over 40 stop signs to read messages such as *"Stop Consuming"* and *"Don't Stop the People."*

BORDERS DRAWN IN BLOOD

BY JUAN DOLOR

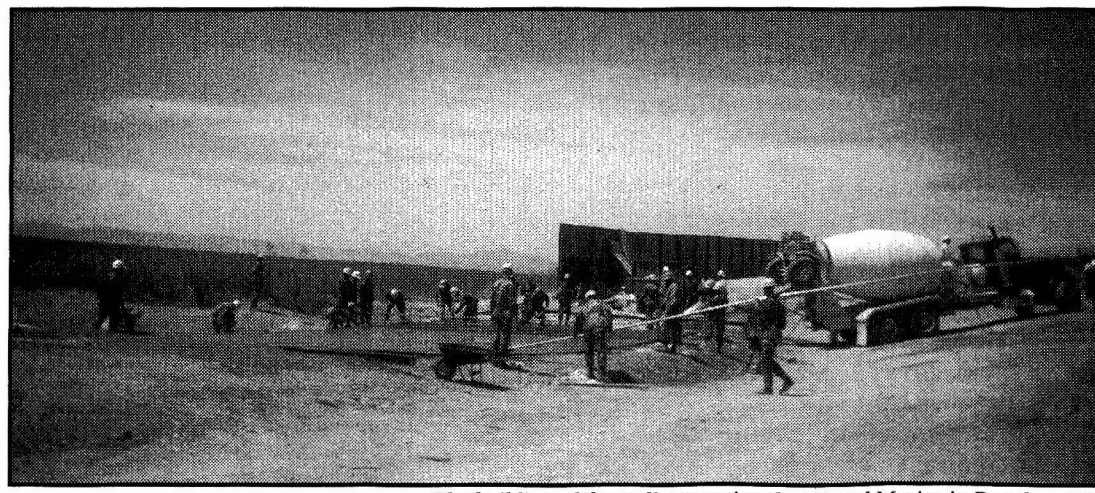


photo courtesy Tod Miller

The building of the wall separating the US and Mexico in Douglas, AZ.

The Euro-American-imposed border separating the United States from the rest of the Americas further serves to widen the gap between the haves and have-nots of the Earth. Gold and land-thirsty conquistadors of times past now manifest themselves as the racist and greedy corporate elite who use the force of their Border Patrol and military to protect their interests. Historically, US policies have defined Latin America as its backyard for dumping wastes and for expropriating cultures, labor and environmental resources. Modern "free trade" policies equate to policies of death; deaths caused by the increased militarization of the US/Mexico border. "Free trade" means that the border becomes more open to the flow of merchandise, resources and money, and it becomes more closed to the people and wildlife that are displaced because of these policies. The Border Patrol's current policies of forcing immigrants into remote and dangerous desert regions are directly responsible for the hundreds of immigrant deaths that occur every year. The death toll is expected to rise as US economic policies and international trade agreements such as NAFTA, GATT, WTO and possibly the upcoming FTAA, increasingly destroy the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people in Mexico, Central America and South America. The "war on drugs" is a convenient excuse to further militarize the border and wage low intensity war on immigrants, Mexican/Chicano border communities and the environment.

Established in 1989, Joint Task Force-6 (JTF-6) is a military operation engaged in low intensity warfare, comprised heavily of Army and Marine personnel, whose official mission is to aid local law enforcement agencies in fighting the "war on drugs." Unofficially, JTF-6 is also one of the government's main weapons in the "war on immigrants" from Mexico and Central America. The work of JTF-6 includes military exercises (usually reserved for other parts of the globe) such as development of ground troops, training of local law enforcement agencies and SWAT teams in military tactics, building of walls, construction of roads, surveillance and intelligence training. While JTF-6's jurisdiction now includes the entire continental US and Puerto Rico, the bulk of its operations occur along the border region in the Southwestern states of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

Federal military units and militarized law enforcement agencies have no respect for the environment, people and communities in which they patrol. The so-called protection of the border has often resulted in massive environmental destruction from manual and mechanical defoliation with habitat destruction resulting from widespread use of chemical and biological agents. Because of this, sensitive riparian habitat along the Rio Grande in Texas is threatened, as well as endangered species habitats in many other border areas.

The escalating militarization of the 2,000-mile long US/Mexico border, headed by JTF-6 and the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), threatens the ecological integrity and viability of this diverse and beautiful region. Road building, low-level helicopter flights, troop training and deployment, fence and wall construction and high intensity light surveillance fragment wildlife habitat, obstruct migration routes, prevent proper feeding and breeding patterns and directly kill many animals. These effects are worsened by the fact that nearly all of the land along the border is dry and fragile desert, especially susceptible to human impacts. The enormous number of species in need of government protection reflects this fragility. The Arizona border region alone harbors 107 threatened, endangered or other special management species.

photo by Karrn Middleman

The Yankee system is set up so immigrants will die.

Among the more charismatic borderland species that are threatened are the magnificent large cats: jaguar, ocelot, jaguarundi, mountain lion and bobcat. True denizens of both Mexico and the US, these species symbolize the uniqueness, cultural diversity and interconnectedness of the border region. Unfortunately, the very existence of these species north of the border is threatened by JTF-6 and INS activities, especially considering the hundreds of missions involving fence construction and vegetation clearing. The extremely imperiled Sonoran pronghorn antelope, of which only 150 remain in Arizona, is also highly threatened by JTF-6 and INS missions and is in danger of becoming extinct in the next 50 years. At the heart of this threat are low-level helicopter flights at less than 200 feet, which have been scientifically shown to separate antelope fawns from their mothers.

JTF-6 and the INS affect an incredible array of habitats. From the rare vernal pools of Southern California, to gallery stands of cottonwoods along the Rio Grande in southern Texas, the Southwestern border environment is being sacrificed to the altar of the war against drugs and the war against immigrants. For example, recent fence and road building missions conducted by JTF-6 and the INS near Nogales, Arizona, severely impacted several riparian areas—ecologically critical streamside habitats that comprise less than one percent of the total land areas in the Southwest. Threatened and endangered species adversely affected by this degradation include the lesser long-nosed bat and the Sonoran chub. While not as well known as species such as the jaguar and the pronghorn, these species are just as valuable and integral to our borderland ecosystem.

The effects of increased militarization on the border are subtle. This is due to the fact that JTF-6 and INS missions are often small in scale, usually involving a few miles of road construction, temporary troop deployments or fence constructed in isolated, rural environments. However, since their inception 11 years ago, literally thousands of these missions have been carried out, usually with little or no environmental analysis. The number of missions continues to proliferate. While Department of Defense officials may argue that individual projects do not jeopardize border ecosystems, the cumulative effects of these missions are staggering. Among the wide variety of abuses heaped on our desert environments are rock mining, livestock grazing, off road vehicle abuse and groundwater pumping. The militarization of the borderland may present the greatest threat facing the desert today.

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Myth & Fact: Immigration and the Environment

Myth: More immigrants mean more environmental degradation and lower quality of life.

Fact: Over-emphasizing the role of population growth in environmental problems ignores who has control of production and consumption decisions. Many of the causes of environmental decline in this country have nothing to do with population growth or individual consumer choices. The military, the nation's largest single polluter, and corporations produce much more toxic waste than households. Corporate advertising drives over-consumption and creates demand for new products that are often more environmentally destructive than old products. Sprawling suburbs, planned and built by developers, gobble up prime agricultural land and wildlife habitat. The public has little control over these decisions.

Myth: Immigrants don't care about the environment.

Fact: Immigrants are essential allies and leaders of the movement for environmental protection and restoration. Immigrant communities suffer disproportionately from environmental degradation and poisoning, whether from exposure to pesticides in fields, toxic dumps in neighborhoods or solvents in factories. But immigrants have begun to fight back and are among the leaders of the environmental justice movement. Newcomers to this country often come from places where they had more sustainable lifestyles and a closer connection to the land. The Loation family that grows its own vegetables without pesticides in a small backyard plot is as much a mode of environmentalism as the American family that recycles its newspapers.

Myth: An immigration moratorium will have economic, environmental and social benefits for America.

Fact: Forward-thinking policies, not scapegoating, will benefit Americans. Urban development strategies that encourage environmental cleanup, bring jobs to under-employed communities, revitalize deteriorating neighborhoods, and counter act suburban sprawl and dependence on the automobile are better solutions to our economic, environmental and social problems. Anti-immigrant postures and legislation foster a climate of hate detrimental to the overall quality of life in the US.

Edward Abbey:

Slowing the Industrialization of Planet Earth

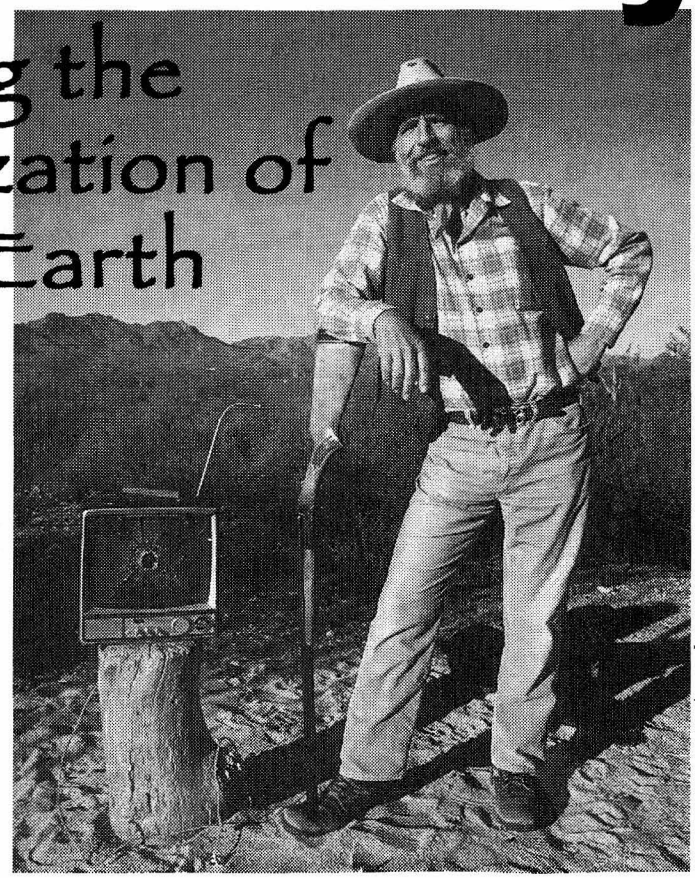

photo by Terrence Moore

BY PLOWBOY

Edward Abbey is described by others as "a talented writer, a freethinking philosopher, an outspoken environmentalist, an adventurer, teacher and hardcase desert rat." His writing credits are rounded out by scores of essays evidencing a rare eloquence and a scorching satirical fire. The bulk of his writing centers on slickrock canyons, arid mesas and cactus-freckled deserts of the American Southwest. The following interview is excerpted from The Mother Earth News, *May/June 1984. Ed Abbey passed away in 1989, though "Cactus Ed" fans will remember that the noises Abbey made often constituted warnings worthy of serious consideration.*

Plowboy: You've been called a prophet, a rebel, a "wild" conservative, an agrarian anarchist, and lots of things that can't be printed. Do you feel that any of those labels fit?

Abbey: Probably the ones you can't print fit best. But sure, I guess I'm a "wild" conservative, if you take the word *wild* to stand for wilderness. But the term *conservative* can mean almost anything and needs to be clarified. To me, it means one who wants to conserve what is best in our society and in our land. In that sense I'm a conservative. *Conservative* and *conservation*—they go together and so should the attitudes.

Plowboy: Probably your most controversial book is the novel *The Monkey Wrench Gang*, which deals with a sort of ecological anarchy, in the form of active resistance to industrial encroachment upon the desert Southwest.

Abbey: Right. And in that novel I tried to make a clear distinction between sabotage and terrorism. My "monkeywrenchers" were saboteurs, not terrorists. Sabotage is violence against inanimate objects: machinery and property. Terrorism is violence against human beings. I am definitely opposed to terrorism, whether practiced by the military and state—as it usually is—or by what we might call unlicensed individuals.

Sabotage is a traditional method for people without military or political power to resist encroachments on their lives and livelihoods. The word is derived from the French *sabot*, meaning *wooden shoe*. When workers in the nineteenth century textile mills of England and France felt they were being abused by having to work 12 and 16 hours a day, they'd sometimes slow down production by throwing their wooden shoes into the machinery. I think this form of illegal resistance is justified.

Certainly, most of us feel that we would be morally justified in physically resisting the invasion of our homes or an attack on our loved ones. And if all the details are just right, that sort of resistance is sanctioned by law. So when a *place* that you love—a piece of public land, be it desert, seashore, mountain or forest—is being invaded by strip miners and road builders and clear-cut loggers, and when all the usual political means of persuasion, all the legal means of preventing this invasion, have failed, then I think you may be morally justified in adopting illegal tactics. In other words, sabotage.

Of course, this decision involves a number of difficult and dangerous questions. For example, is a small group of people, a scattering of individuals, justified in taking the law into their own hands in such cases... even if the majority of their fellow citizens may support the industrial invasion or at least be indifferent to it? In the final reckoning, we all have to rely on our own consciences to decide what we do and what we don't do. If we decide to be completely law-abiding citizens and never violate the law, that in itself is a moral decision, and we have to take *responsibility* for that decision, even when the law is doing *evil* things.

Plowboy: How could large-scale support be gathered when the activity it would be endorsing is illegal?

Abbey: It would have to start as an underground movement. You certainly can't expect the official media to support sabotage; the newspapers and television aren't going to advocate it. And along those lines, I think there is far more ecological sabotage going on right now than most

of us ever hear about. Generally, it's hushed up. I know of enough things that have happened here in the Southwest to believe that's true. The incidents aren't reported because it's a contagious idea: If people in North Carolina hear about certain things going on in Utah, they might decide to adopt the same tactics themselves.

I think that every time people resist as strongly as they can, without committing violence against other humans, their resistance helps in the long run. It makes industrial invasion of the wilderness more expensive, more difficult, more debatable the next time it's brought up.

Plowboy: Last summer you spoke at the Earth First! rally at Jackson Hole, Wyoming. What sort of an organization is Earth First!?

Abbey: We call it a "movement," rather than an organization. At the time of that rally, its hard-core supporters numbered something like 3,000. Earth First! tries all sorts of things to resist the destruction of the wilderness, stopping short of openly engaging in sabotage. Most of their public activity is in the form of civil disobedience: blocking road-building projects with their bodies, standing in the way of bulldozers, getting themselves arrested. I call it "conditional" civil disobedience. It's a way of trying to make a point, of gaining publicity, of slowing down destructive processes and perhaps of changing the minds of enough of the public to finally gain *popular* support for a cause.

Plowboy: A discussion of something that seems to come up repeatedly in your writing: wilderness and civilization and their symbiosis.

Abbey: A true civilization, for me, embraces tolerance as one of its cardinal virtues: tolerance for free speech and differences of opinion among humans, and tolerance for other forms of life... bugs and plants and crocodiles and gorillas and coyotes and grizzly bears and eagles, and all of the other voiceless, defenseless things everywhere that are in our charge. Any true civilization *must* provide for those other life forms. And the only way to do that is to set aside extensive areas of the Earth where humans don't interfere, where humans rarely even set foot.

It's *good* for us to live on a planet of great diversity and variety. I think that a completely industrialized planet, a completely humanized planet would be intolerable. It would be a diminished life, as if the whole world were one great city. We'd lose the small-town way of life, the agrarian way of life, the farms, ranches, open spaces, forests, deserts, mountains and seashores. All of them would be completely taken over, devoured. That seems to be the direction in which we're moving right now. And if we succeed with this mad project of trying to dominate the whole planet and reduce everything to an industrial culture, we'll then turn on each other and start devouring one another even more vigorously and ferociously than we already are.

The more wilderness we set aside, the less space can be devoted to industry and the less pollution will be created. So the two things go together—the preservation of wilderness and the slowing of the industrialization of planet Earth. Even though we've become so powerful that virtually everything we do affects the whole planet and all other forms of life, we still need to strive to be as tolerant and generous and humble as we can. We need to restrain our human gluttony for more power, more goods, more technology. It's insane, lunatic, this mania for growth. We're not only tyrannizing *nature*, we're tyrannizing *ourselves* with this emphasis on centralized power and technological supremacy.

Shouldering Earth First!'s Baggage

Wilderness, Privilege and Immigration

BY BONNIE ABBZUG

Late author/agitator Edward Abbey, in all his (ahem) glory, is often cast as a philosophical father figure in Earth First! circles. For this eco-gal, it's many a time that a reflective wilderness experience or jubilant action has been infringed upon by the religious mention of "Uncle Ed" by what usually happens to be some white guy who talks too much. In this world of "father-knows-best-ism" and a depressingly amusing mixture of Catholic guilt and obedience to the government, I don't need any more omnipotent and benevolent patriarchs. In fact, Ed is very similar to my real-life father.

EF! loves quoting, photographing and fervently following white, financially secure, college-educated men. These boys aren't on the top of the list of who Earth First! needs to be listening to. As long as our passions and strategies are limited by star-struck identification with self-indulgent privilege, we, and more importantly the Earth, are missing out.

EF! and the larger environmental movement have some skeletons in the closet that need to be thrown out. Wilderness preservation often meets skepticism from those working for social justice because most environmentalism is very white and middle class, and it can even have fascist undertones. This is not because ecological issues are not relevant to all people. It is because of false lines drawn, and the way campaigns are articulated and carried out in a political vacuum. Real bridging, which involves listening instead of recruiting, needs to be done due to ingrained racist sentiments of some of the environmental movement's spokespeople.

"Radical" redneck for wilderness Dave Foreman co-founded EF!. He and Ed Abbey began to dig a hole in EF!'s abilities to struggle alongside our revolutionary allies very early on with an anti-immigrant stance. The two misguidedly targeted immigrants for our ecological ills, and Abbey (at the '87 EF! rendezvous) went so far as to praise the "superiority" of US cultural values over those of Latin America.

Dominant European culture is obliterating indigenous cultures around the world. Cultures most under attack are those that maintain a connection and love for the land. This is not an accident. An anti-immigrant stance supporting borders and militarization (Foreman and Abbey are not the only environmentalists who have put this forth) is a threat to cultural wilderness as well as the ecological wilderness they love so dearly.

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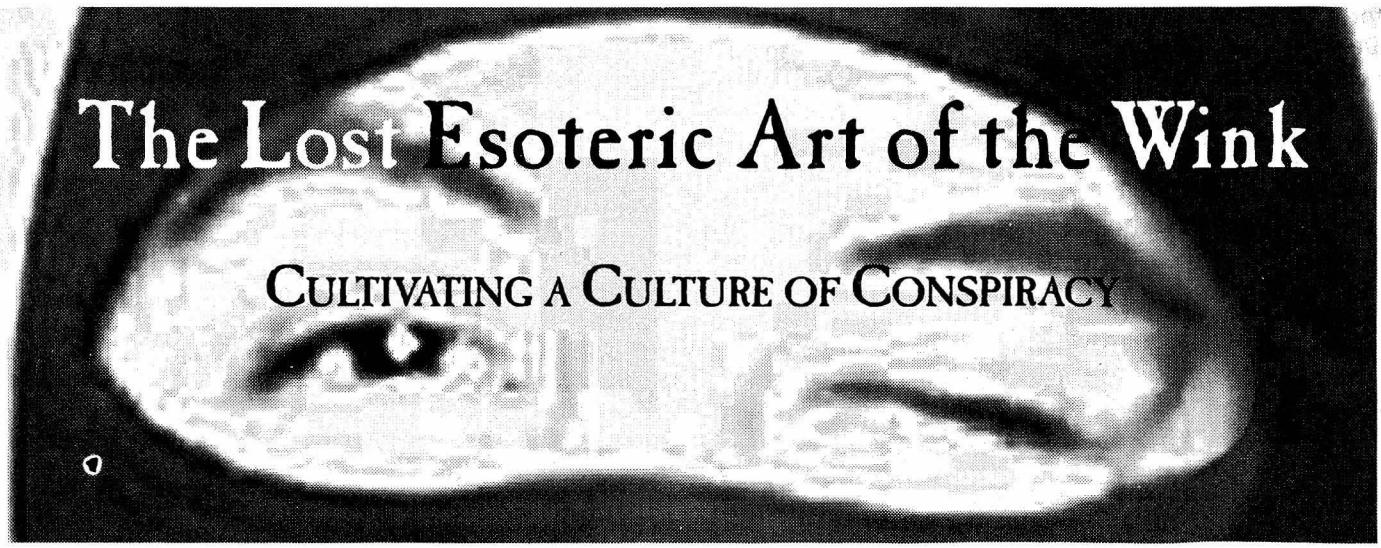


The Lost Esoteric Art of the Wink

Cultivating a Culture of Conspiracy

BY NOEWUT I. MEEN

wink (wingk) v. *1. to close and open one eye as a signal or suggestion.*

conspire (ken-spir´) v. *1. to plan together secretly to commit an illegal act 2. to work or act together; unite 3. to breathe together (Latin's* conspirare: con—*with, together;* spirare—*breathe, as in respire or respiration).*

So far the discussion of Earth First! movement security has covered the reasons why folks shouldn't cooperate with investigation and harassment by the feds/police, and it has offered some suggestions of what to do when they arrive. Okay, that's better than nothing (although late in coming, and the most basic concepts need to be continuously retaught amidst our history-repeating-itself tragic comedy). We've got to start (or re-start) somewhere, after all. But it's time the discussion went far beyond this preliminary and reactionary level.

What has not been adequately addressed is what I feel to be the singular "security" problem with our movement: Simply put, we don't "got each other's backs." Even more so, we have forgotten how the string of letters that makes up that phrase might sound out phonetically enough to say the words at all, much less understand how to carry out the idea. (Please excuse the bitterly sarcastic tone, but our lack of solidarity and smarts here in the US is pathetic, even if it is an understandable result of living in a privileged nation-state where everyday struggle to survive doesn't mean as much as it should.) We need to delve deep into why we don't have solidarity when push comes to search warrant.

Beyond a culture of security, we need a culture of conspiracy. We have forgotten the art of the wink, the tacit understanding. The secret codes and decoder rings of childhood. A cooperation that can at certain magical times reach near-telepathy. In a nutshell, we lack a true understanding of community and affinity, be it with plant, mineral or animal (our own kind or the less domesticated).

It is not enough to scramble to educate or remind ourselves of the principles of good security after crackdowns are already happening. It is not even enough to be fully prepared beforehand for reactionary non-cooperation, as a voice touched on in the last issue of the *Journal* (see *EF!J* March-April 2001). One cannot be better at security, or anything for that matter, if the aspiration is for a thing that at its core is not felt or dreamed of like life depended on it. We must rise to the occasion before the occasion occurs—be proactive—and fight with stealth and guile.

The Melting Pot and the American Nightmare

US pop culture tells us that there is no culture, only selfish individualism and soda pop. Thus, "consumer culture" is given a (brand) name. A bit of travel or correspondence with people in less-consumptive countries, meaning most of the rest of the world, shows just how much peoples' roots of interaction and diverse ancestry have been stripped away here in the states.

From New Orleans to New York, one finds it impossible to say that the US has no cultural vibrancy, but the point is that less and less often can diversity resist the homogenizing melting pot. America's greedy individuality is epitomized by privileged, white, monocropped "culture." Though change is coming in a strong tide, EF! is still predominantly white, privileged (gender, skin, class, the list goes on) and has a major listening problem.

We don't think we need to listen to the very people who are fighting alongside us! Somehow our interest in learning from them wanes because they hold down a different hillock of the revolutionary landscape. Yet we wish they would give us the time of day to drop their struggles and join ours. Ain't gonna happen, not like that. Social justice and Earth liberation must work together to each mean something.

Working class solidarity is a much stronger force in other parts of the world. The huge general strikes and picketline battles of turn-of-the-century US history are for the most part past memories (no disrespect meant to those few workers who are subverting their bosses today). We have an enemy here in the states, and it is a most clever opponent—the enemy is us. It is in the self-policing of insecurity and jealousy. It is in the rule-following, good Samaritan who will turn a fellow citizen in for jaywalking or shoplifting. It is in the worker who won't bend the rules or bargain with the customer who doesn't have quite enough money for her dinner. And it is in our friends and ourselves in our compromise in defense of the Earth.

Harriet Tubman and the underground slave railroad are a good model

for a working conspiracy. Under the Deep South's oppressive humidity of hate, black freedom fighters found their escape through an immensely organized, cooperative effort of many different kinds of people. It took a level of understanding and solidarity to risk so much. Stops all along this railroad harbored safe houses. There were people who pulled off the jailbreaks, transported escaped slaves, provided cover and cooked food. The argument of "all tactics in the toolbox" is not based on new political revelations, and no, the anti-globalization movement did not start in Seattle.

New Year's Day dawned in Chiapas in 1994 and the EZLN rocked the world with the voice and spirit of the Lacandon Jungle. But their conspiracy had been brewing much before then. (pre-planning is an important tenet of conspiracy.) So that when the government and the Mexican elite looked for Zapatistas, they had no idea who these warriors were because to begin a real search would have come up with most of the country's people. The indigenous resistance in Mexico has a support thus far not yet achieved by movements in the US. When repression comes a-knocking, very often more intensely in Mexico than for struggles this side of the border, every face in San Cristobal de las Casas holds a secret, the fingers crossed behind the back, a sly wink.

Earth First!, and our splintered society in general, has some serious unlearning to do. Not only do we not take the time to consider what a conspiracy ethic might entail, we exhibit an even deeper problem in not realizing that more revolutionary options of thought and action may exist, should we envision and enact them. The double layer of this unlearning is almost daunting. The dysfunction is so deep we've forgotten our clandestine instincts.

A quote of such stunning denseness that it must be reprinted, states, "I wonder if there *is* a group called ELF," says the founder of the Native Forest Council, "or is it some kind of industry political group to discredit environmentalism."

It is astonishing that our own troops do not/cannot conceive of simple night work and the fact that they may even know the people doing it, or at least know what the people doing it know: How it feels to care about land and freedom.

Conspiracy Culture

"Security is mostly a superstition—It does not exist in nature... Life is either a daring adventure or nothing." —Helen Keller

Being secure is well and good, better than a walking, talking subculture and scene of informants! But how 'bout something more active, more engaged?

The troubling labels of "activism," "campaigns" and "the movement" have harmed as much as helped. We are all animals really. And if industry and capital can unite so strongly, beyond their competition for who gets to stomp on which face, we best unite as readily, if not more so. Earth First! and radical ecofreaks will need to conspire, and the larger picture will need to reveal a broad conspiracy of smaller conspiracies, a multi-issued, multi-angled potluck smorgasbord of mayhem.

This is not to say everyone must do the same kind of work. In fact, a prevalent problem in our culture is a lack of diversity and respect for such.

Our work must be to learn to have the patience to build foundations and water the blossom of culture. Let us create a sense of youthful, exuberant camaraderie, and craft the crafty. We were once kids with codes and forts (no adults allowed), spit-promises and blood-sisters, cup-and-string phones and secret places.

Here's a brief list of what aspects our conspiracy culture might take on to attempt effectiveness, because specific ideas are always the most doable. Please think for yourself and add to this list, gather a crew of accomplices and paint the town green and black:

—Networks of support structures: safe houses (and safe land communities) along an underground-style railroad; free food programs like the Black Panthers' breakfast program and Food Not Bombs; people without records or government scrutiny to rent cars; people to lend, find or create new identities and identification; money!

—People to do research for actions and uprisings, especially the research that is impossible to do without leaving a trail (being captured on video, talking to people who may remember a face, etc.).

—Folks to get the word out publicly for those who can't talk about the issues they're acting on for fear of exposure, and different people with particular talents to take on all the many roles in a conspiracy.

—Intentional training and emotional-processing groups to purge the dominant culture of dog-eat-dog exploitation from our heads. It affects our strategy more than we realize.

—A real need-to-know (or more aptly put, don't-need-to-know) consciousness. This should include the trick of inferring the not-needing-to-know. We should think before we speak. It is simply uncouth to ask or tell what someone's up to (unless they tell you it's okay) inside a building or car, especially in buildings or cars that have a likelihood of being under surveillance. And people shouldn't be laughed off or labeled as paranoid when they have a security request, like "Don't say what I'm working on aloud in the office," wink wink, nudge nudge. You don't know what they're up to and what getting on the government's radar will mean for them. The result of laughing or ridiculing someone's conspiratorial requests/needs is that people get reluctant to state them. It's too much trouble when they won't be understood. They start to wonder if their precautions are silly. This is dangerous, and it is the state of things now.

—Get beyond friendship cliques and work together with people that dress, look and think differently from us, or we're doomed to evolutionary incest.

—For agents and infiltrators, there has to be a holding of accountability, and practical retribution.

continued on page 54

Feds Raid ELF Press Office, Yet Again

Agents from the FBI, B.A.T.F. and Oregon State Police conducted a six-hour raid of the home, business and vehicles of the spokespersons for the North American Earth Liberation Front Press Office on April 5. In addition to seizing hundreds of items of property from the above locations, Craig Rosebraugh was served a subpoena to testify before a federal grand jury on April 18, 2001, that had been convened in Eugene, Oregon to investigate the Romania car dealership arson (see page 26).

The Eugene grand jury was later called off. This was Rosebraugh's seventh grand jury subpoena issued to him since 1997 in relation to the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) and radical environmentalism.

photo by Portland Indymedia

The FBI loads up personal belongings in its hunt for the ELF.

At approximately 6 a.m., Rosebraugh was pulled over in his vehicle by a Portland Police Officer claiming the stop was due to a broken taillight. After 30 minutes FBI agents approached the car and delivered copies of the search warrants to Rosebraugh. The warrants were specifically for the search of Craig Rosebraugh, Leslie James Pickering, Elaine Close, the residence that all three live at, two vehicles belonging to Pickering and Close and the Calendula Baking Company that Rosebraugh owns. Simultaneously as Rosebraugh was pulled over, agents began the raid on the personal residence in North Portland where both Pickering and Close were present. After Rosebraugh and the vehicle he was driving were searched, Rosebraugh was taken to the Calendula Baking Company where the FBI proceeded to break through a window to gain access. A four-hour search and seizure was conducted at this site while at the same time a six-hour search was occurring at the residence.

Upon leaving the bakery and the home, agents seized hundreds of items of property including computer equipment, phone books, videos, literature and other items.

"This is nothing more than another attempt by the thugs of the state and federal government to stop the legal work of the North American ELF Press Office" stated Rosebraugh. He added that items such as computer monitors were taken which cannot constitute any evidence since they do not store data. "These random items which were seized have no connection to any crimes and this is quite obviously just another form of harassment dealt by the state."

Pickering added, "This by no way will have any negative impact on the work we do at the ELF Press Office. In fact, it has made us more determined than ever to promote and release information on the ideology of the ELF."

For more information, contact the North American ELF Press Office, (503) 478-0902; elfpress@tao.ca; www.earthliberationfront.com.

—Earth Liberation Front Press Office

Santa Cruz Activists Face Felony Charges

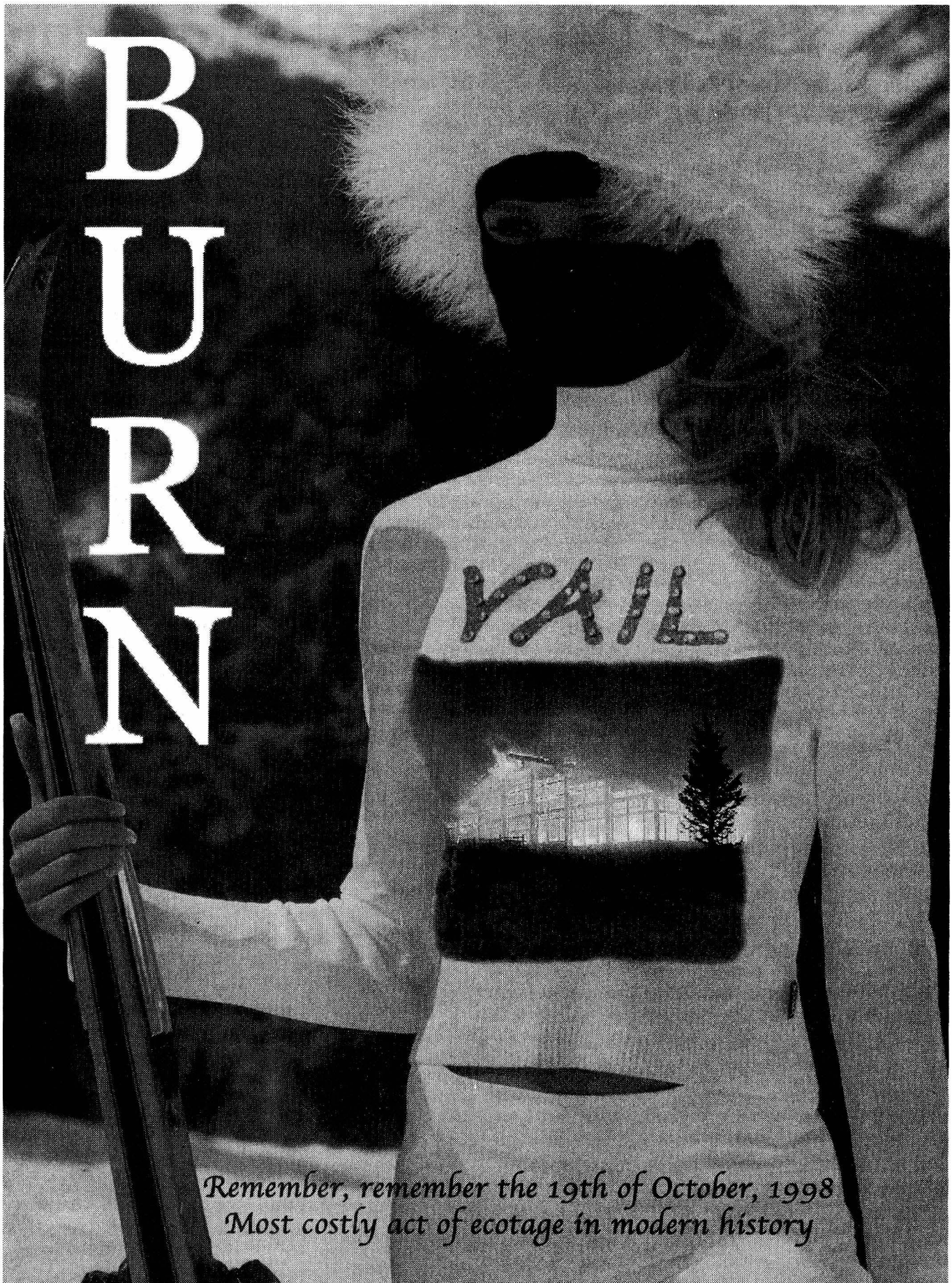
Two Santa Cruz, California, activists, Matt Whyte and Peter Schnell, were arrested January 23. Currently, they face serious federal charges for the alleged possession of materials that could be made into "destructive devices." In fact, the materials the arresting officers concede the charges are based on are nothing more than a can of gasoline, some gallon jugs and birthday candles!

If this case weren't so disturbing, it would be laughable. In fact, the charges filed against Matt and Petey were designed to require that firearms (and destructive devices) be registered. The idea that this should be extended to make it a major felony to possess gasoline, birthday candles and water jugs is absurd.

If Matt and Petey did not have a history of protesting, it seems improbable they would still be facing charges. In addition to citing their alleged possession of the aforementioned items, the police report actually included photos of the other "evidence" found in their car. Among the more interesting items seized and photographed are a wrapper from a Tropical Source chocolate bar, a flyer for an upcoming forum on the prison industrial complex and a map of Santa Cruz.

To fight these outlandish charges and provide adequate support for these two young men, money for their lawyers is urgently needed. Checks can be made out and sent to: Santa Cruz 2 Defense Fund, POB 917, Santa Cruz, CA 95006.

For updates on the case contact the support team at the above address or sc2fund@hotmail.com.


BURN
KAIL
Remember, remember the 19th of October, 1998
Most costly act of ecotage in modern history

Free's Trial Delayed One More Time

Motion Made After Dozens of SUVs Burn in Eugene

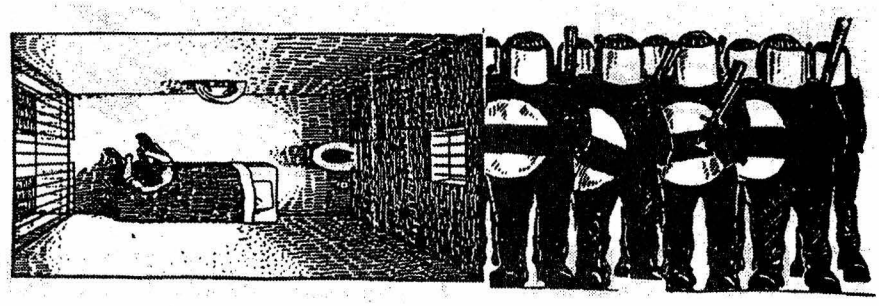
After 10 months at the Lane County Jail in Eugene, Oregon, Jeffrey "Free" Luers' trial has been postponed, yet again. On April 3, Free's lawyer filed a motion to postpone. The judge granted the motion and a new trial date has been set for May 30, two weeks shy of Free's one year "anniversary" in jail with no resolution.

The motion was filed as the result of a March 30 arson fire at Romania Chevrolet, the same car lot that Free and Critter are accused of burning in June 2000.

This latest arson resulted in the destruction of 30 Sport Utility Vehicles (SUVs). An anonymous communiqué claiming responsibility for the new fire was sent to the North American Earth Liberation Front Press Office and reads as follows:

"One million dollars worth of luxury SUVs were torched at Romania Chevrolet. Sucking the land dry, gas-guzzling SUVs are at the forefront of this vile, imperialistic culture's caravan towards self-destruction. We can no longer allow the rich to parade around in their armored existence, leaving a wasteland behind in their tire tracks. The time is right to fight back.

"Romania Chevrolet is the same location that was targeted last June, for which two Earth warriors, Free and Critter, are being persecuted. The techno-industrial state thinks it can stop the growing resistance by jailing some of us, but they cannot jail the spirit of those who know another world is possible. The fire that burns within Free and Critter burns within all of us and cannot be extinguished by locking them up.



"In this continuous assault on both the planet and ourselves, SUVs destroy the Earth while the prison system tries to destroy those who see beyond this empty life.

"We must strike out against what destroys us before we are all either choking on smog or held captive by the state. Take the power into your own hands. It's your life."

Due to the mention of Free and Critter in the communiqué, the fire's timing in relation to Free's trial, the extensive, biased media coverage, and speculation resulting from the act, Free's lawyer believes that a jury would be unduly influenced and incapable of impartiality.

In addition to the defense attorney's filing for postponement, the prosecutor filed new indictments against Free. Thirteen new indictments superceded the original 10, correcting inaccurate addresses, but also including a new Measure 11 (mandatory minimum

Frontlines

Katúah EF! Locks Down

Earth Firstlers chained themselves to Earth-moving equipment on April 13 to block the expansion of US 321 bordering the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Nine EFlers were picked up by Gatlinburg, Tennessee, police shortly after the protest began around 8 a.m.

Four who locked themselves to bulldozers were charged with disorderly conduct and held on $5,000 bond. The five others were released.

The activists were protesting the four-mile, $30 million widening of US 321 from Gatlinburg northeast to the Greenbrier entrance to the park. As usual, the National Park Service has said the project will cause no harm.

ALF Rescues Hundreds of Chickens

The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) rescued 468 chickens from an egg factory farm in Beaumont, California, in the early morning hours of March 17. This is the second time the company, Sunny-Cal Eggs, has been targeted by the ALF.

Last June, more than 600 baby chicks were liberated from Sunny-Cal and placed in a sanctuary. The ALF videotaped activists placing chicks into carriers and showed the horrendous conditions in which these animals live their short lives.

"These animals will be placed in good homes where they will never be crammed into a cage, and forced to stay awake all hours to produce more eggs (more profits)," stated the ALF communiqué.

ELF Attacks Nike in Solidarity Action

The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) claimed responsibility for an attempted arson at a Nike Outlet store in the town of Albertville, Minnesota. This latest action specifically targeted Nike due to the corporation's use of sweatshop labor overseas and its role in globalization.

A communiqué sent by the ELF stated, "This visit was in solidarity with all people of all nations to fight globalization, and to support the growing anti-global sentiment. This is also a call for direct action against globalization in solidarity with all of the anti-FTAA actions scheduled in Canada later this month."

The communiqué continued, "Although the roof of

sentencing) charge, a class A felony conspiracy charge. If convicted, this charge would add another 10 years to his sentence. The prosecutor stated that she had always intended to add the additional charges if Free refused a plea agreement. Many offers have been made, and Free has steadfastly refused them all.

Free and Critter need your support. The Legal Defense Committee wishes to thank all those who have sent contributions and words of encouragement to Free and Critter. Please continue writing to them and holding them in your thoughts. Their ordeal is far from over.

Write to them—include your name and return address on the letter as well as the envelope, as they are only given the letter. Letters must be written in blue or black ballpoint pen, on plain white paper, with no stains or spills, or they will be returned.

Jeffrey Luers (Free) #1306729, 101 W 5th Ave, Eugene, OR 97401.

Craig Marshall (Critter) c/o FCLDC POB 50263, Eugene, OR 97405.

Send them books and reading material. All publications must come directly from the publisher or (erp!) Amazon.com.

Send a contribution for their legal defense (please do not include correspondence with checks): Free and Critter Legal Defense Fund, c/o OUR Credit Union, POB 11922, Eugene, OR 97440.

Have a fundraiser in your town! Start a prisoner support group! Get active!

For more information, visit www.efn.org/~eugpeace/~freecritter.

—Free and Critter Legal Defense Committee

ELF Goes Spikin' Down South

Saboteurs claiming to be part of the Earth Liberation Front drove hundreds of steel spikes into trees on Virginia's Northern Neck timber tract sometime in March to stop a timber sale.

The activists left signs throughout the 300-acre tract in Westmoreland County warning loggers of the spikes, which do not hurt the trees, but can damage chainsaws and injure sawmill workers.

Alex Coughlin, vice president of Rock Hill Lumber, said the company may have to spend $30,000 to $40,000 using metal detectors and taking other safety precautions when it runs the lumber through the sawmill.

He also said he is determined to harvest the timber, *no matter the expense.* "They haven't discouraged us," he said. "It's just made us that more bull-headed. That place belongs to us."

this Nike Outlet did not go up in flames as planned, this action is still a message to Nike they cannot ignore. In fact there are only two options for Nike at this point. Option 1: You can shut down all of your sweatshops immediately and place all assets into the communities you have stolen from. Along with this you must close down all Nike Outlets, starting with the Albertville, MN location.

Option 2: People across the globe will individually attack Nike Outlets, as well as retailers that sell Nike (including college campus shops) until Nike closes down, or adheres to demand #1."

ELF Strikes Again on Long Island

The ELF has officially claimed responsibility for smashing more than eight 10 by 10 insulated plate glass windows and one neon sign at the Old Navy Outlet Center in downtown Huntington, Long Island, New York, on March 5.

A communiqué stated, "This action served as a protest to Old Navy's owners, the Fisher family's involvement in the clearcutting of old-growth forest in the Northwest. These actions will continue until the Fisher family pulls economic support from the lumber industry, regardless of whether with the Pacific Lumber Company or otherwise."

The Fisher family, which owns the Gap, Banana Republic and Old Navy, recently purchased 235,000 acres of Mendicino County redwood forest in Northern California. The Fisher's logging company, Mendicino Redwood Company, plans to clearcut large sections of land within this purchase.

The company is also spraying Garlon, an herbicide related to Agent Orange, to eliminate ground vegetation. Garlon induces vomiting and weakness in humans and is known to severely disorient juvenile Coho salmon.

The communiqué continued, "Old Navy, Gap, Banana Republic care not for the species that call these forests home, care not for the animals that comprise their leather products, and care not for their garment workers that are underpaid, exploited and enslaved in overseas sweatshops."

The communiqué finished by stating, "As more and more minds continue to be exposed to the true nature of their greed, fewer and fewer will sit idly by, and the cries of the Earth will not fall upon deaf ears. We will not stop. Love, the Elves."

LONG ISLAND ACTIVIST TARGETED BY THE FBI

An advocate for homeless and hungry people, Connor Cash is a 19-year-old human rights and environmental activist as well as a role model for his Long Island peers. Residing in Sound Beach, Long Island, New York, Connor co-founded Long Island's Food Not Bombs hunger relief program in Port Jefferson Station during the spring of 1999.

Connor is also an outspoken organizer of the Modern Times Collective (MTC). MTC is an autonomous youth activist network which works on a wide array of issues ranging from labor sweatshop issues to counsel sessions for "at risk" or suicidal teens. Through MTC, Connor became one of Long Island's premiere advocates on behalf of sweatshop workers, against immoral economic globalization and on behalf of the environment and wildlife. Along with his organizational work in MTC and Food Not Bombs, Connor volunteered on various other environmental justice, social justice and animal rights campaigns.

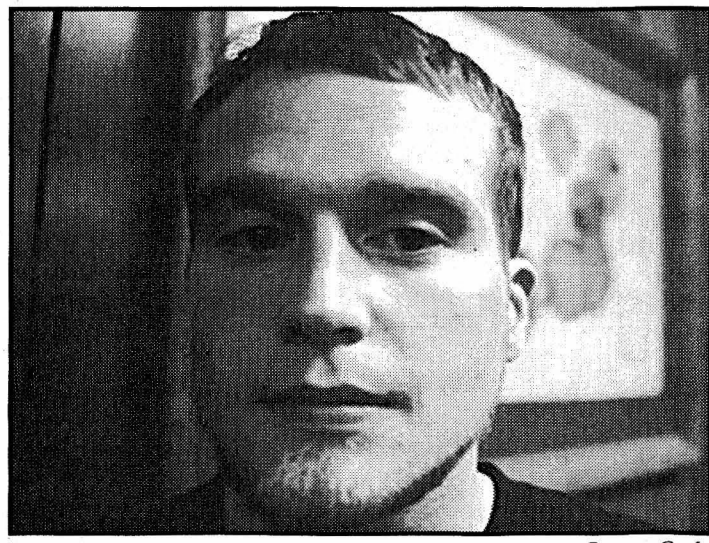


photo courtesy Connor Support Defense

Connor Cash

As other people's respect and admiration for Connor's activism grew, there was an unfortunate drawback. Connor became a target of a national probe into activist collectives by federal authorities. By the summer of 1999, federal and state authorities began to investigate the Long Island chapter of the Animal Defense League (ADL), the island's premiere animal rights and wildlife preservation organization. Local and federal authorities began to probe the ADL searching for leads pertaining to the militant direct action group the Animal Liberation Front. ADL members often fell victim to arrests, beatings, trumped-up charges and even imprisonment for their unwillingness to cooperate with an activist witch hunt.

When media outlets began to report that actions being taken by radical factions of the environmental and animal liberation movements were intensifying, authorities responded by intensifying their investigations. During December 2000 and January 2001, youth activists from the ADL, MTC and Food Not Bombs fell victim to a massive campaign of intimidation and repression. In January 2001, Connor and other youth activists were approached at their homes by federal agents asking them to divulge any information they could provide to help shed light on their stagnating investigations. Federal agents made both verbal and physical threats to activists, trying to coerce them into providing information. One financially burdened activist was offered thousands of dollars in hopes that the activist would infiltrate the ADL. Another was told he would be charged with crimes if he did not cooperate. Connor too was approached and threatened by agents stating, "It's going to be your ass if you do not cooperate." At that moment Connor hired attorney Fred Brewington, acclaimed for his civil rights cases. Connor and the other activists refused to give statements knowing that they could not be charged with crimes because of their innocence and constitutional right to remain silent. From the day Connor refused to cooperate and implicate other activists until February 15, he and friends were followed by photographers and videographers.

Connor was then arrested by FBI agents and indicted on the charge of arson conspiracy.

Three other teens had been arrested in the days prior to Connor's arrest. The three teens each pled guilty to one count of arson conspiracy in an agreement that they would cooperate with federal investigators. The agreement made by the three cleared them of being prosecuted of many other severe felony crimes.

It is not known as of yet what the nature of Connor's indictment is, but it is assumed that one of the three teens perjured testimony implicated Connor during a closed grand jury proceeding as part of his plea bargain agreement. The three teen's all face up to 40 years imprisonment, but if they implicate others they could end up serving less than five years. Unlike the others, Connor has entered a plea of innocent and had bail set at $250,000. Connor's family put a lien on their home as a form of collateral to attain Connor's release from custody, and he is currently free pending future trial.

Connor is in desperate need of our help! He has already paid thousands of dollars to his lawyer and will probably need to pay thousands more. Please donate as much money as possible to his legal defense fund. If you would like to donate to his legal defense make checks payable to: The Animal Defense League, POB 1117, Huntington, NY 11743. For large tax-deductible donations: Animal Rights America, POB 469, Caldwell, NJ 07006. Please staple an attached note stating "Connor Cash Legal Defense." For more information, contact (631) 340-4708; freeconnorcash@yahoo.com; www.ADL-online.com.

—NORTH AMERICAN EARTH LIBERATION PRISONERS SUPPORT

German Nuclear Waste Reaches Its Destination

Shipments of reprocessed nuclear waste from France arrived at an underground storage depot at Gorleben in northern Germany on March 29, but only after nearly 700 people were arrested in violent clashes with police. A force of riot police strongly guarded the railway line from the Cogema nuclear waste processing facility in La Hague, France, to the small German town of Dannenberg where the shipment was transferred onto trains.

The waste reached Dannenberg a day late after being blocked for 20 hours by protesters who chained and cemented themselves to the railway tracks. Police used water cannons to control the crowd. The battle left about 60 protesters injured.

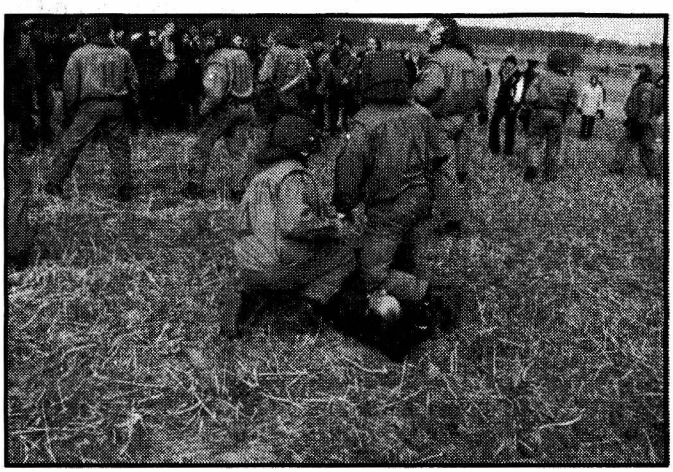
The protests escalated as the night wore on in Dannenberg. A group of militant demonstrators fired flares at the officers, destroying one of their vehicles. Just outside of Dannenberg, a group of eight Greenpeace activists succeeded in stopping the train just short of the final depot by chaining themselves to the tracks in a complex mass of steel chains and heavy locks laced beneath the rails.

The unloading of the containers was expected to take up to 12 hours, during which they would be measured for radioactivity. The train terminal was sealed off behind barbed wire and a heavy police presence. Police were keen to avoid a repeat of the clashes four years ago, when protesters threw stones and bottles and police responded with batons and water cannons.

The controversial shipment consists of spent nuclear fuel from Germany's own nuclear power plants that had been sent to France for reprocessing. An international agreement requires that nuclear waste must be returned for final storage to its country of origin. Many Germans are strongly opposed to the transportation of high-level nuclear waste, citing risks to the environment and human health and safety.

In 1997, similar demonstrations at the Cogema facility brought out more than 20,000 protestors and more than 30,000 police. Again in 1998, demonstrations disrupted a nuclear shipment to the Ahaus nuclear waste storage site in northern Germany. The protesters object to what they say is highly dangerous radioactive waste being transported through Germany and hope to make the transports so costly that the government will call them to a halt.

The ruling Social Democrat/Green Party coalition had endorsed this year's nuclear transports as part of an agreement to close the country's 19 nuclear power plants within the next 30 years. Some of the core supporters of the party felt betrayed by the party's support toward the nuclear waste transfer. Still, grassroots activists, farmers and Germans from all walks of life have consistently opposed the transportation and storage of radioactive waste. Two waste shipments are scheduled to take place each year through 2010 from France to Gorleben.



Bare Bones

Victory for BC Rainforest

In a major victory for environmentalists, Canadian government and timber-industry officials agreed April 4, to protect 3.5 million acres of British Columbia's ancient coastal rainforest from logging.

The protected area, part of the Great Bear Rainforest, is the largest contiguous temperate rainforest left in the world. It is home to extremely rare and endangered wildlife including a rare variety of white-colored black bears called spirit bears, grizzly bears, salmon and eagles. Despite their ecological and recreational value, nearly every intact watershed on the BC coast had been slated for road building or clearcut logging over the next decade.

The agreement calls for 1.5 million acres to be permanently protected, and another two million to be protected under a logging moratorium for two years until more stringent forestry standards can be established.

Judge Suspends Logging in Parts of Tongass

In late March, Judge James Singleton, Jr., of the US District Court for the District of Alaska ruled that the Forest Service violated two federal laws when the agency refused to consider any new wilderness areas in the 1997 Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Tongass Land Management Plan Revision.

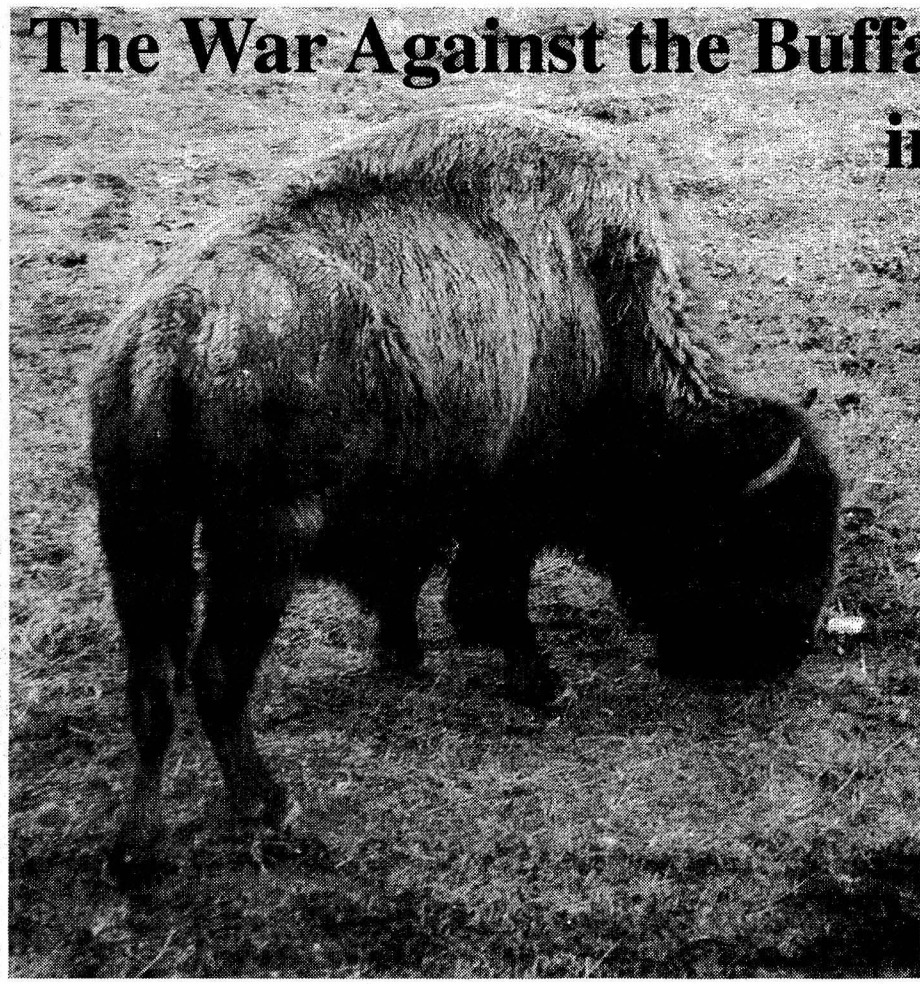
The order prevents the Forest Service from permitting any new roads or timber sales in roadless areas of the Tongass until the agency prepares an EIS considering new wilderness areas.

Under federal law, only Congress can designate new wilderness areas, but the Forest Service is required to make recommendations on new wilderness proposals when preparing land management plans.

The order does not affect timber sales in the roaded areas of the Tongass, but timber industry representatives said the judge's decision could bar logging on at least 400,000 acres of the 17-million acre Tongass.

The ruling halts logging on the Kuakan, King George and Upper Carroll timber sales, and a road building project on the South Arm sale.

The War Against the Buffalo Continues in Yellowstone



EF! Journal file photo

BY FESTUS

The last wild American bison continue to be harassed, captured and slaughtered by the Montana Department of Livestock (DOL), National Forest Service and National Park Service. Although it has been a mild winter in the Yellowstone ecosystem, more than 20 bison bulls migrated out of the park in January. They have spent the winter grazing along the Madison River bottoms and at Horse Butte, a traditional winter range for Yellowstone bison. If not for the deadly, military-style tactics of the DOL, these bulls would have an easy, peaceful existence.

On February 14, after several unsuccessful attempts to haze the bison back to the park with snowmobiles, DOL brought out its helicopter. Flying as low as 10 feet above the wildlife-rich river bottoms, the copter fired explosive rounds and blasted a siren to haze the bulls two miles back into Yellowstone. It then proceeded to Duck Creek where it hazed six bulls that had never left Yellowstone but were near the border, about two miles into the park. Ironically, none of the bison were on cattle-grazing land.

Peace and quiet along these corridors is vital for the survival of elk, moose, bald eagles, trumpeter swans, wolves and many other wildlife that winter here. Disruptions caused by the DOL threaten all wildlife in the area, at the most critical time of year—with Yellowstone National Park's approval.

After a month's hiatus, in which the bison quickly returned to their previous location along the Madison River, the DOL flew their death machine again. On March 14, the copter rounded up 15 bulls on the Madison and attempted to push them into the Horse Butte capture facility. As the copter approached the butte with its quarry, Buffalo Field Campaign (BFC) volunteers moved into position.

Utter chaos reigned at Horse Butte for the next four hours. When the snow settled, seven bison had been captured. Seven volunteers were arrested and, thanks to their efforts, eight bison had escaped the trap. Knowing they had saved eight bulls from likely slaughter made the activists' sacrifice a sweet one. Unfortunately, two of the captured bulls tested positive for brucellosis antibodies, and were sent to slaughter. The other five were tagged and released, all having suffered wounds during the capture and testing process that threaten their survival.

In the following week DOL returned and attempted to capture three bulls at Horse Butte. In an awesome display of true power, one of the magnificent bulls wallowed right in front of the DOL agents, stood up and flipped sand in their direction with his horns. The bulls then turned and ran up the butte, quickly disappearing over the ridge. With frustration evident on their faces, law enforcement officers arrested two protesters who had allegedly crossed an arbitrary closure line on Forest Service land.

The following day, DOL flew its helicopter over Duck Creek and Cougar Creek and captured seven bulls that had left the safety of the park. One protester was arrested at Cougar Creek for allegedly disrupting the operation. Three of the bulls were sent to slaughter and four tested negative. These were released the next day, obviously traumatized.

When DOL agents returned to Horse Butte, though, they found a tripod erected on the access road to the capture facility. Despite 24-hour security along the road, one volunteer occupied a platform 30 feet up in the blockade. He was removed with a cherry picker late in the day and arrested, but was successful in keeping the bison at Horse Butte from being captured.

On March 23, during a planned "week of action" to end the slaughter, BFC held a rally at the Gallatin National Forest office in West Yellowstone. Decked out in costumes representing the many species that live in the area, the protesters demanded an end to the deadly activities of the DOL on Forest Service land. Two people were admitted to the office, without costumes, to talk

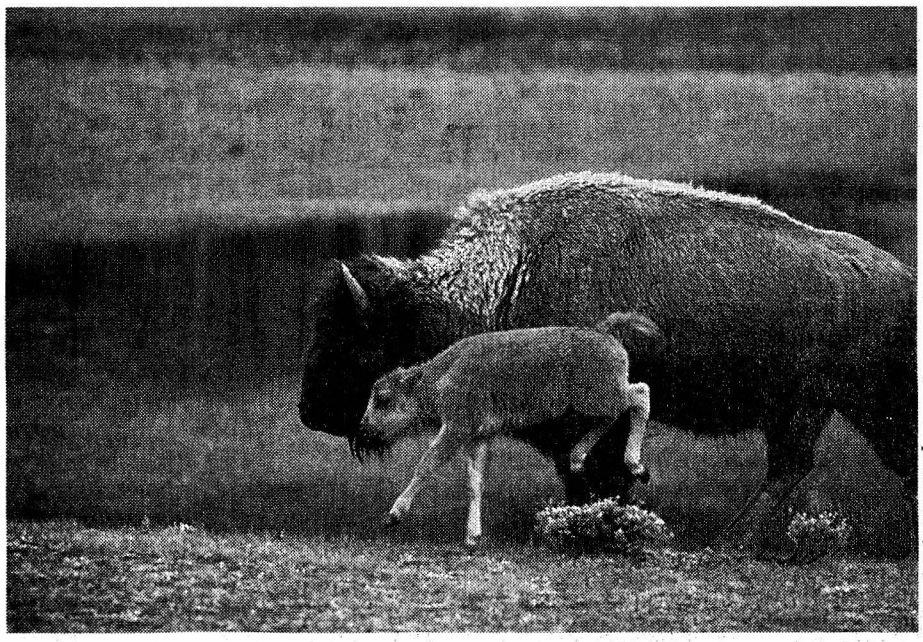


photo courtesy BFC

with District Ranger Stan Benes. Benes, however, could only offer up a list of the usual, lame excuses as to why he is powerless to change the status quo. The question still remains: Why do Montana cattle interests hold so much power over the National Forest Service and Yellowstone National Park?

On March 25, 50 people attended a prayer ceremony hosted by the Ehnamani Sundance Church. In the ceremony, we gave thanks to the Great Spirit and asked for strength, for protection of the bison and for the enlightenment of those that would continue the reckless slaughter.

More than 70 people gained valuable experience in the field, helping end the slaughter of the last wild bison by attending the "week of action." Early April brought a new threat, as hundreds of pregnant females and calves began to head west toward Horse Butte. So far, DOL has only attempted to haze them back to the park, but has been largely unsuccessful.

BFC will stand by its commitment to this incredible herd. Every day in the field the bison teach us valuable lessons, and amaze us with their beauty, grace and power. Our family continues to grow in numbers and in strength. BFC is the only group working in the field to document and stop the indiscriminant slaughter of America's last wild bison.

For more information, contact BFC, POB 957, West Yellowstone, MT 59758; (406) 646-0070; (406) 646-0071 fax; buffalo@wildrockies.org; www.wildrockies.org/buffalo/.

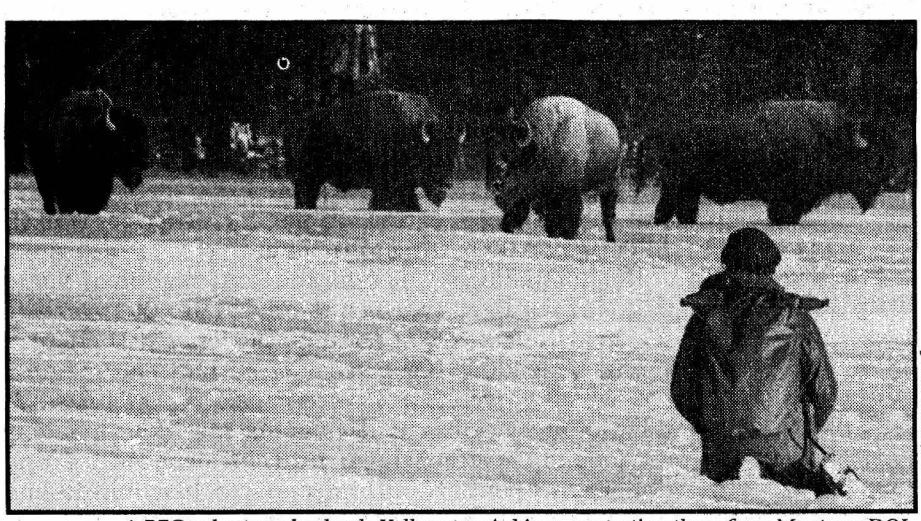


photo courtesy BFC

A BFC volunteer shepherds Yellowstone's bison, protecting them from Montana DOL.

BARE BONES

Pacific Lumber Settles With Landslide Victims

The Stafford, California, landslide lawsuit was settled on March 5. As part of the settlement Maxxam and its wholly owned subsidiary Pacific Lumber Company, along with Barnum Timber, agreed to pay the 26 residents of Stafford $3.3 million to avoid a jury trial. Many Stafford residents were current or former employees of Pacific Lumber, and virtually all were long-time supporters of the timber industry.

The case arose out of a catastrophic landslide that occurred on December 31, 1996, and nearly buried the entire community of Stafford under hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of mud and debris. The landslide, which originated on the steep slopes above Stafford, had been recently clear-cut by Pacific Lumber and was alleged by the residents to have been the cause of the slide. The residents claimed that Pacific Lumber should have known that once they roaded and clear-cut an already unstable hillside, the residents' homes would be subject to slides.

Steven Schectman, the lead attorney for the plaintiffs said he was pleased with the outcome. "This was an extremely difficult case. Not so much because of the facts or the law," he said. "It was more because we were up against a Fortune 500 multi-national corporation who had unlimited resources. They attempted to use the fact that they have been one of the largest private employers in Humboldt County for the past 100 years as a shield to protect them from any allegations of wrongdoing. If that wasn't enough," Schectman added, "we also had to go all the way to the California Supreme Court to have Judge Feeney removed from hearing this case because of his bias in favor of his former client, Pacific Lumber. Still we were able to persevere and in the end achieved a result that should make our clients' lives better and the rest of us that much smarter. For that we are grateful."

A House on Fire

Connecting the Biological & Linguistic Diversity Crises

BY KIERAN SUCKLING

"When you lose a language, it's like dropping a bomb on a museum."

—KENNETH HALE, MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

"We are accelerating toward a calamity unparalleled in planetary history... These are crucial years for us to act, as the library of life burns furiously around us, throughout the world."

—GREGORY BENFORD, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA–IRVINE

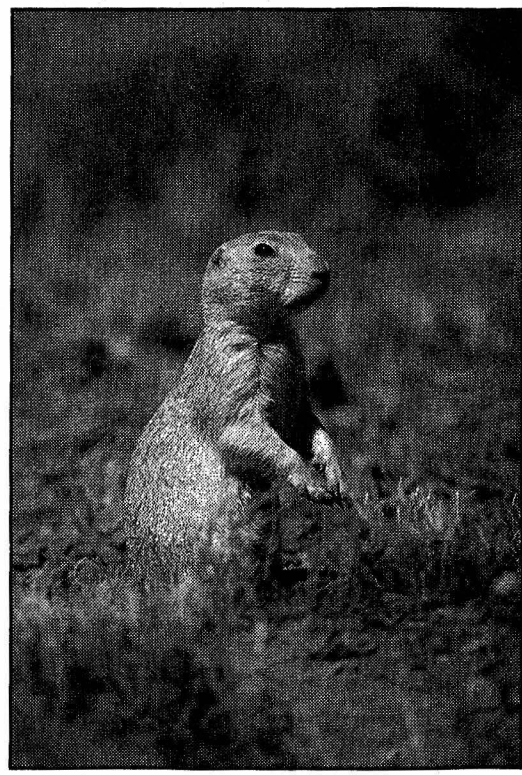


photo by Robin Silver

Though it is a truism among conservation biologists that humanity is in the midst of the Earth's sixth great extinction spasm, overt public awareness of the crisis is dim, and understanding of its implications even dimmer. The house is burning down around us, and even as the beams begin to cave in, we have the vaguest intuition of the enormity of the danger. How is it possible to ignore the biosphere careening toward an extinction catastrophe unparalleled, not only in the brief span of human history, but in the last 65 million years of life on Earth? The question places us before the most profound and difficult task facing the environmental movement: How to reach through the maze of denial, information overload, biological disassociation, cynical politics and economic struggle to awaken our fellow humans to the fire that is rapidly consuming plants, animals and entire ecosystems?

The "biodiversity knowledge gap" is one part of the problem. A recent poll of members of the American Institute of Biological Sciences, the National Science Teachers' Association and the general public revealed a steady decline in understanding of the extinction crisis, from researchers to teachers to the public. Scientists rated overpopulation and biodiversity loss to be greater problems than ozone depletion, global warming and pollution. Seventy percent believe that during the next 30 years, 20 percent of all species on Earth will become extinct. A third believe the global extinction toll could reach 50 percent over the next 30 years. In contrast, over half of science teachers do *not* believe we are in the midst of mass extinction. Only 38 percent described themselves as being "very familiar" with the concept of biological diversity. Over half of the general public is unaware of the extinction crisis. Most rated pollution as the most important environmental problem. Few described themselves as understanding the concept of biological diversity.

Lack of information is not the central problem; it is the inability to grasp the scale, synergistic effects and ultimately, the meaning(s) of mass extinction in our time. Perhaps the problem is in the language we use to talk about extinction, which is itself influenced by the extinction process. Human languages are as much *of* as *about* nature. Their functioning, therefore, is not immune to the far-reaching effects of species extinction and ecosystem disruption. The converse is also true: Biological diversity is being profoundly impacted by the extinction of human languages. Indeed, the collapse of global linguistic diversity is proceeding faster than the collapse of biological diversity.

Biological Meltdown

It is impossible to directly determine the number of species that have been driven to extinction by humans in recent history. Even in our era of lightning-fast communication and global science, the majority of extinctions go undocumented because most species have not yet been "discovered." Based on documented modern extinction rates, it is likely that the Pacific islands alone have lost 2,000 species of birds in the past 1,000 to 2,000 years, meaning that about 20 percent of all bird species on Earth have already gone extinct. A conservative estimate of the global extinction rate over the past 500 years is about 1,000 species per year. The current global extinction rate for all species is likely 15,000 to 50,000 extinctions per year.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), a collaborative effort of more than 7,000 scientists, reviewed the status of 48 percent of all terrestrial vertebrate species (including 100 percent of all bird and mammal species) and a very small percentage of invertebrates. By their count, 41 percent of all mammal species are in serious decline and 25 percent are currently threatened with extinction. Twenty percent of all bird species are in serious decline, 11 percent being currently threatened with extinction.

Most alarming from a biodiversity standpoint is the serious decline of 50 percent or more of all the species in 13 orders, including primates (50 percent), *Chiroptera* (bats, 50 percent) and *Cetaceans* (whales and porpoises, 69 percent). While the evolutionary process may take 10-million years to "replace" an extinct species, the loss of entire orders of vertebrate evolution may not be replaceable on even the grandest of geological timelines.

Given the IUCN's strict definition of a threatened species, more than 25 percent of all species on Earth could become extinct within the next 100 years. While it is unlikely that every one of them will become extinct within a century, the extinction of species not currently listed as threatened will likely more than makeup the difference. Twenty percent of all living primates could become extinct in just 20 years.

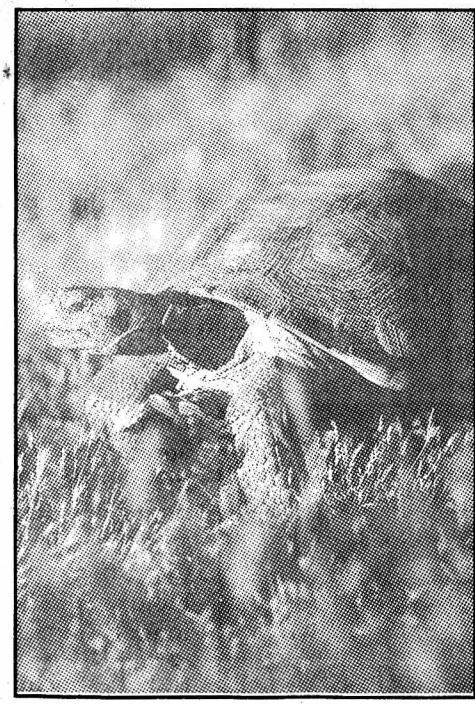


photo by Robin Silver

Linguistic Extinction

The diversity of co-existing languages and cultures prior to the ongoing colonization of the globe by a small number of dominant nations was astounding. In what is now California, indigenous peoples once spoke more than 100 distinct languages. This small area supported more linguistic diversity than all of Europe. More than 300 native languages were spoken in what is now the United States. Meso-America had 80 distinct languages; South America more than 500. At least 250 distinct languages were spoken in aboriginal Australia.

The rate of eradication of these languages, and often the people who spoke them, is equally astounding. Sixty-five percent of California's indigenous languages are extinct, with many of the remaining spoken by fewer than 10 people. Only two or three of California's indigenous languages are spoken by more than 150 people. None are spoken by children at home. The only remaining fluent speaker of Chumash, a family of six languages once spoken in Southern California, is a professional linguist. Overall, about 42 percent of the 300 languages indigenous to the United States are extinct. Eighty percent have become moribund since European colonization.

As many as 50 percent of all existing world languages are already moribund. If the *status quo* continues, 90 percent of all existing languages could become moribund (or extinct) within 100 years. This has led linguists to classify 95 percent of all existing languages as endangered.

Is the decline in biological and linguistic diversity a coincidence? One obvious causal connection is that indigenous people were subdued/exterminated to exploit the natural resources they controlled, and the exploitation of those resources led to a parallel decline of biological diversity. But there is also a deeper link hinted at by the close correspondence between centers of biological and linguistic diversity. There is a 64 percent overlap between the 25 countries with the greatest number of endemic vertebrate species and the 25 countries with the greatest number of endemic languages. Twelve of the 19 high bird diversity countries are also high language diversity countries. Seventeen of the high language diversity countries are among the 25 most diverse in flowering plants. Linguistic and biological diversity, therefore, are not linked by the external threats to their survival, but appear to be internally related in their distribution.

The Nature of Diversity

Anthropologist Claude Levi-Strauss was among the first European intellectuals to see a deep connection between

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BARE BONES

Pentagon Unveils New Crowd-control Weapon

On March 1, the Pentagon unveiled a new weapon that uses electromagnetic waves to disperse crowds without killing, maiming or, according to military officials, injuring anyone slightly. Known in Pentagon jargon as a "Vehicle Mounted Active Denial System" (VMADS), the weapon would fire bursts of electromagnetic energy capable of causing burning sensations on the skin of people standing as far as 700 yards away without actually burning them.

The VMADS, or "people zapper," uses a "directed energy beam," according to a Pentagon spokesperson. When it comes into contact with skin it causes an uncomfortable burning sensation.

Harnessing microwaves and traveling at the speed of light, the beam penetrates less than a millimeter under the skin, quickly heating the skin's surface and triggering the body's defense reaction: pain. When the subject moves out of the beam, the pain stops.

The weapon is still in the development phase and probably will not be ready for deployment by troops for at least five years, Pentagon officials said. In its current experimental form, the weapon looks like the average backyard satellite dish. The Pentagon envisions a version mounted on the back of a Humvee, but officials said hand-held or aircraft-mounted versions are under consideration as well.

Farmer Growing Biotech Crops Found Liable

A judge, on March 29, ordered a Canadian farmer to pay the biotechnology giant Monsanto thousands of dollars because the company's genetically engineered canola plants were found growing on his field, apparently after pollen from modified plants had blown onto his property from nearby farms.

The decision in a federal court in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, is a significant setback for farmers who fear they will be held liable if pollen from neighboring farms blows onto their fields, transmitting patented genes to their crops without their knowledge or consent.

The Tyranny of Structurelessness and Earth First!

BY LEITH KAHL

I have noticed a considerable amount of discussion taking place recently concerning the state, nature, purpose, relevance, and most of all, future of Earth First!. The younger generation of EF!ers is pulling in a decidedly pro-alliance, multi-issue and social justice-oriented direction, while many older EF!ers are voicing concerns that this will cause EF! to lose its radical, biocentric, green edge and be dispersed into the larger soup of left-of-center direct actionism. Some are calling for more action in the streets and some for more action in the woods. Some are expressing visions of a new and revitalized EF! for the next millennium, and some are saying that EF! has run its course and has no reason to continue to exist.

It is natural and desirable that such discussion should abound at this time. Both EF!, and the rest of society around it, is at a critical historical juncture. Our most famous, romantic and favorite tactics are old, and therefore not as sensational and effective as they used to be. New innovations are appearing, but the planet as we know it doesn't seem any closer to being saved. Moreover, EF! has been forced to realize since the battle of Seattle that it is just one tiny puzzle piece in a much larger movement against corporate tyranny—locally, nationally and globally. EF!ers had long taken pride in calling EF! "a movement" in and of itself. For a loose affiliation of ephemeral and semi-nomadic friendship groups and one shoestring publication with 2,500 subscribers to have suddenly experienced what a "movement" actually looks like has been somewhat sobering.

In the light of this discussion at this particular point in our story, I would like to bring an essay to our most scrutinous attention. It is "The Tyranny of Structurelessness" by Jo Freeman. Written in 1970 as an internal critique of the women's liberation movement in the US at that time, it was first brought to my attention by a Seattle longshoreman. I believe that its insights can be applied almost point for point to the current dilemmas of EF!.

Freeman's introductory identification of formal and informal structures mirrors EF!: "Contrary to what we would like to believe, there is no such thing as a 'structureless' group," she says, "...To strive for a 'structureless' group is as useful, and as deceptive, as to aim at an 'objective' news story, 'value-free' social science or a 'free' economy. A 'laissez-faire' group is about as realistic as a 'laissez-faire' society." All groups have a structure; there are simply some with intentional structures and some with unintentional ones. EF! formations of both varieties abound on a local level. Nationally, our only intentional structures are the *Journal* collective and the stewardship of the Direct Action Fund.

Freeman's analysis of unintentional elite's and the "star system" also parallels the current state of EF!: "While it has consciously not chosen spokespeople, the movement has thrown up many women who have caught the public eye for varying reasons. These women represent no particular group or established opinion; they know this and usually say so. But because there are neither official spokespeople nor any decision-making body the press can interview when it wants to know the movement's position on a subject, these women are perceived as the spokespeople. Thus, whether they want to or not, whether the movement likes it or not, women of public note are put in the role of spokespeople by default. This is one source of the tie that is often felt towards the women who are labeled 'stars.' Because they were not selected by women in the movement to represent the movement's views, they are resented when the press presumes they speak for the movement... Thus the backlash of the 'star' system, in effect, encourages the very kind of individual non-responsibility that the movement condemns. By purging the sister as a 'star' the movement loses whatever control it may have had over the person,

who becomes free to commit all of the individualistic sins of which she has been accused."

Although we often make some effort to choose public spokespeople for specific actions, we do not always do so, and when we do, those people are often left on their own when it comes to defining the scope and longevity of their duty to represent the movement to the general public. Where we don't choose spokespeople, and often even where we do, the media is more than happy to choose them for us. The result is that a system of involuntary "stars" is developed in which the people who speak for us cannot be sure of their prerogatives or the extent to which they are empowered to speak for EF!. When they say things that displease some of us, it often results in the accusatory backlash that Freeman writes about. The movement ultimately loses whatever democratic control it might have had over the conduct of the accidental star.

Freeman's examination of the phenomenon of political impotence focuses on the issues of infighting and local vs. national organizing. This is probably the part of her essay that is most applicable to EF!: "When a group is involved in a task, people learn to get along with others as they are for the sake of the larger goals. There are limits placed on the compulsion to remold every person into our image of what they should be."

When a local EF! group has an action project afoot, the people in it tend to work past their differences together and accept one another's personality quirks for the sake of the goal at hand. When an EF! group cannot commit itself to a unifying project, it becomes most prone to infighting and personal power games. "On a local level most groups can operate autonomously, but only the groups that can organize a national activity are nationally organized groups." EF! as it is currently structured (and yes, we do have a structure whether you like it or not) is not capable of mounting a campaign on anything but a local level. We have national and international contact information, and we can read about, visit, donate supplies to and otherwise individually assist one another's local campaigns in whatever country and bioregion they are taking place. As an international network of groups, it's a shame EF! can't organize on a coordinated international level.

We are living in a period in which EF! is increasingly being called upon to step forward in conjunction with older, larger, more established, and in some ways, more experienced forces. I am not just referring to the Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment or the United Steelworkers of America. Likewise, if you walk into a blue-collar bar in Tacoma, Washington, and mention the Sierra Club you are likely to be met with grumbles and epithets about clueless liberal yuppies. But mention Earth First!, and it is not unlikely that someone will say "Oh Yeah, those freaks are alright! Hey, were you in town when one of them dangled off that crane with the banner about the Steelworkers? And then there was that one guy from Earth First! who went in and spied on the Aluminum plant for the Union. Yeah, they're pretty neat!"

The president of International Longshore and Warehouse-workers' Union (ILWU) Local 23 in Tacoma was quoted in *The Dispatcher* (his union's paper) saying, "Our alliance with the environmentalists scares the hell out of the employers." Just to put that into perspective, the ILWU is a union that I saw honor a picket line put up by environmentalists in the Port of Seattle in March 2000, by refusing to unload a shipment of toxic PCBs that might otherwise have been dumped into the local groundwater. The union then went on to pass a resolution at its next convention stating that they would not move any such toxic waste in the future, regardless of whether a picket line was in effect or not. The ILWU also shut down shipping in all West Coast Ports from San Diego to Alaska during the battle of Seattle, and did the same thing three times to protest scheduled execution dates for Mumia Abu-Jamal, stuff that most EF!ers can only fantasize about doing.

> All groups have a structure; there are simply some with intentional structures and some with unintentional ones.

It is not surprising that EF! should have arrived at these political realities. We are a cutting edge political force made up of more working-class people than we acknowledge. For all the guilt-ridden rhetoric about being too privileged and

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Earth First!
Beltane 1991 Vol. XI, No. V
THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL May 1 THREE DOLLARS

Big Bend National Park is Fer Shit

BY DAVID TEAGUE

This article originally appeared in the May-June 1991 issue of the Earth First! Journal.

Cow shit, and lots of it. On Thursday, March 28, 1991, three EF! operatives cleverly disguised as ill-smelling, drunken, under-equipped campers observed what appeared to be moo-cows relieving themselves on the Santa Elena Canyon road in Big Bend National Park. The three Earth First!ers, on leave from their duties at the University of Virginia Earth First!, know that these were in fact *not* bovines, because cows are not allowed inside the park. They figured this was just a desert mirage, complicated by dirty Land Cruiser windows. Cows, you see, have a knack for destroying fragile, pristine desert ecosystems by eating up all the plants, pissing in the water and cutting trails all over easily-eroded hillsides, and so are not welcome in desert preserves.

After cleaning the windows of their car with the backwash of several Hamm's beer cans they happened to find on the floorboard, the three were able to ascertain that these were indeed cattle. They had pointy horns and said "Moo!" when hit in the head with rocks. Erik, David and James, as the three campers called themselves, then proceeded to chase the cows through the creosote bushes (for these were the only plants left in that part of the park) in an effort to give them heat stroke or to cause them to run off a cliff. But neither thing happened. So the Earth First!ers drank tequila and plotted to fill the cows and the Park Service with hot lead the next day.

Instead of doing that, though, they just went to the Park Headquarters to ask some hard questions. "Why the fuck are there cattle on our desert out there?" they asked the Rangers while offering as evidence two brown and crumbly cow patties and one soft green one.

The Rangers explained, "Get that shit off our desk."

The Earth First!ers said "Can we please see a naturalist capable of explaining why we found fecal matter like this over a ten-mile stretch of the damn park?"

The Rangers said, "Well, which naturalist would you like to see?" and Erik, James and David said, "The goddamned doo-doo naturalist, which one did you think, you stupid lazy-assed, park-killing, job-falling-down-on, cattle-ignoring, kickback-from-rancher-taking slimy sacks of turds." Then the EF!ers were put out of doors along with their cardboard box full of cowshit.

Later, Ranger Smith came out there and told them a few things. It was sort of like question and answer time. Here is how it went:

EF!ers: Why are there at least 30 cows in the park? And why do they appear to have been here for years? And how have they managed to cut hundreds of trails and leave tons of cow shit around here without your noticing them? And why do they have a brand that looks like this?

photo by James Barnes

Erik submits evidence of cow infestation in Big Bend.

And why...

RS: Whoa there, you stinking, drunken bums, let me get a word or two in edgewise. Now we *have* noticed those cows around here. In fact, there's one cute little blonde and red one I've had my eye on. But they will just have to *stay* around here. There is not enough money in our $3-million budget to get rid of them. Up until about six months ago, the USDA had a man in the park who rounded them up, put them on a truck and took them to Presidio where their owners paid a fine to get them back. But now the guy has quit his job, and the cows stay.

EF!ers: Well, he was doing a pretty sorry job to begin with if he has only been gone six months. Those cows have been here for years to judge by the system of trails they have trampled out for themselves, not to mention the amazing abundance of cow patties all over the Rio Grande bottom. What the hell do you have to say to that?

RS: Well, actually maybe he didn't do such a good job. But so what? It's pretty hard to keep cows out of here what with all that unguarded border between Big Bend and Mexico. It's just not fair to expect us to spend all our time keeping a bunch of illegal alien cows out of the park, especially when the whole Border Patrol can't even keep illegal alien *people* out. It's just too hard, and it costs too much money and the budget is tight and we have all those parking lots to pave for RVs to park on and oh, my... (Here the transcript shows a series of deep sobs followed by moans and vaguely coherent blubbers involving various unsavory acts of love committed upon barnyard animals).

EF!ers: Stop crying and get your hands out of your pants, Ranger Smith. If you can't afford to get rid of them, then why don't you just shoot them? Bullets are pretty cheap, the cows are clearly trespassing and once you shoot 10 or 20 it's pretty likely that their owners will take more care to keep them where they are supposed to be. Or haven't you thought of that, you stupidly complicit advocate of the destruction of the desert ecosystem?

RS: Actually, we've thought of that. In fact, I suggested it myself, personally, to the Park Director while I was massaging his buttocks a while back. But in light of our country's present interest in keeping relationships with Mexico friendly and warm, we just can't shoot Mexican cows right now.

EF!ers: So in order to keep alive our national chances of appropriating the country of Mexico and its natural resources wholesale, we've got to keep a bunch of Mexican ranchers happy by allowing their cows to destroy the last best Chihuahuan desert in the world? To keep George Bush and his shiny dome-head on the path to imperialist glory we've got to camp in cow shit when we escape to the wilderness? Fuck that, we're going out to shoot some cows ourselves...

To find out what happened, you can order the back issue for $4 or an almost complete set for $400 (that's all 20 years, folks).

Wild Wyoming Where it all Began

RRR 2001

BY JIMBO UNABRIDGER

Wyoming allegedly derives its name (as the white invaders dubbed it) from the Wyoming Valley in Pennsylvania; the name is reportedly a corruption of a Native word or phrase translating loosely as "large plains." For many generations it was home to Indigenous Peoples such as the Shoshone, Arapahoe, Bannock, Assiniboine, Gros Ventre, Crow, Cheyenne, Arikara, Blackfeet, and Mandan. The Wyoming Territory was the first place in the u.s. to grant suffrage to womyn. Wyoming was appropriated as a state by the u.s. government on July 10, 1890. In 1924 Nellie Gardner was elected governor of Wyoming—the first womyn to hold a gubernatorial office in the u.s. Next to Alaska, Wyoming has the altogether exquisite distinction of being the state least populated by homo sapiens. In areal coverage it is the 9th largest state, and it contains some of the last, wildest, most rugged country remaining in the lower 48-including Yellowstone and Grand Teton Parks as well as Devil's Tower and the Red Desert. And Wyoming is far from being just a "large plain" (I wonder if those invaders chose Interstate 80 as their travel route...). In fact, some of the most impressive mountain ranges in the lower half of the Rocky Mountain Chain reside in the western part of the state—with their attendant snow-capped peaks, glaciers, idyllic valleys, ancient granite canyons, alpine meadows and forests, geothermal features, and verdant riparian zones.

Wyoming has always been home to rugged individualists and hard-working communities—and this distinction includes humans as well. It was here that a collection of unique and hard-edged pre-Apocalypse warriors came together to face down a terrifying and relentless global threat: the wanton destruction of all that is wild, beautiful, and free at the hands of greed-crazed humans. With biocentrism at the core of their philosophy and the (then-living) late, great Edward Abbey as a primary source of their inspiration, these forward-thinking individuals understood that the environmental movement was failing, that traditional avenues for effecting conservation were corrupted, current environmental organizations were watered down and top-heavy, and that the time had come to up the ante in defending wild country from corporate capitalist pillage. At the end of the 1970s Earth First! was conceived in the Pinacate Mountains of northern Mexico and was born (or hatched) in the high valleys of the Greater Teton-Yellowstone Ecosystem. The rest, as they say, is history.

photo by Andy Peterson

They didn't have an easy time of it. The vast majority of Americans couldn't tell you where Wyoming is to save their own lives ("Wyoming? What state is that in?" would be a common response to such a question). The Beast, on the other hand, is very knowledgeable about Wyoming's attributes-and has been for a very long time. The condition of the Native Peoples there today is probably the most obvious (and poignant) example of just how well-informed Wall Street is about Wyoming...So those early eco-warriors were not at all well-received by money-making interests who had been carpet-bagging their way around the region for well over a century. Some of the finest wild country left on Earth was and is being commodified and desecrated by large outside industries that include roadbuilding, log

RRR 2001 · Outside of the Tetons, Wyoming · July 7-16

ging, mining, cattle-grazing, drilling, nukes, gentrification, urban sprawl, and motorized "eco"-tourism. Along with ecological devastation, the subsequent economic stratification becomes more starkly obvious with each passing year, and—with the northward migration into the state of displaced Native and Latino/Latina families desperately seeking employment—this stratification is also becoming increasingly colour-coded. Some residents of Wyoming aren't noted for any tolerance whatsoever for diversity of any kind—biological or social. Our intrepid founders learned this quickly during the early 1980s; Matthew Shephard learned this in the late 1990s when he was savagely beaten to death and strung up on a fence for his sexual orientation. As far as some people (in Wyoming and elsewhere) are concerned, Wyoming's wildlands are valuable only for economic exploitation, Wyoming's wildlife valuable only as "livestock" or wall trophies, and Wyoming's people fit only as servants and industrial cannonfodder—all for the sake of this anthropocentric money-making machine that is known so euphemistically as the "global economy."

And to that we say "BULLSHIT!" We are Teewinot Earth First!, and the Greater Teton-Yellowstone Ecosystem is our home. We will not stand by and watch some of the last, best wildlands on earth be chewed up, sucked dry, spat out, and subdivided for some greedhead oligarchy's self-serving agenda. And we invite you all to be here for the 21st annual Round River Rendezvous: the Wild Wyoming New Millennium Rendezvous. All of you: those old, not-so-old, not-so new, and new to (or curious about) wilderness defense and revolutionary ecology are invited. Let us as a movement take this time to simultaneously glance back and peer forward, to look outward and inward. Where have we been, where are we now-and where do we go from here? Wyoming still is what America was...let's keep it that way! We ask that all who come honour the following principles:

1.) An undying love for Wilderness and biodiversity;

2.) A commitment to the defense of Wilderness and biodiversity;

3.) A commitment to non-violence;

4.) Respect for sociocultural diversity within the movement that defends Wilderness and biodiversity.

RRR 2001 will be, among many other things, a linking of our past with a new beginning for the future; a reunion of yesterday's heroes with today's warriors and an inspiration for tomorrow's. We look forward to seeing you!

DATES: July 7-16, 2001

LOCATION: McCain Meadows, adjacent to the Little Greys River, in the western foothills of the Wyoming Mountain Range; east of the town of Alpine, Wyoming (on the Snake River) in the far west-central part of the state.

Take U.S. Highway 89 to the town of Alpine, on the Snake River in far western Wyoming... as a matter of fact, spend as much of your journey on this highway as possible: from Montana to Arizona, it passes through some of the most beautiful lands in the Lower 48. From Alpine, take the Greys River Road east along the Greys River for about 8.5 miles or so. There the road forks: the Greys River Road forks right and follows the Greys River to the south...let it do so without you. Stay left, onto the Little Greys River Road, and follow it further east along the Little Greys River for about 12 miles. Watch for the signs...

$15-$50 donation requested.

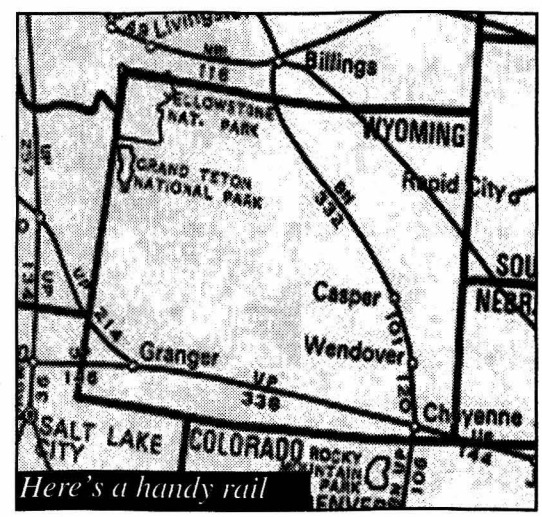
Teewinot EF!
Box 1588
Wilson, WY 83014

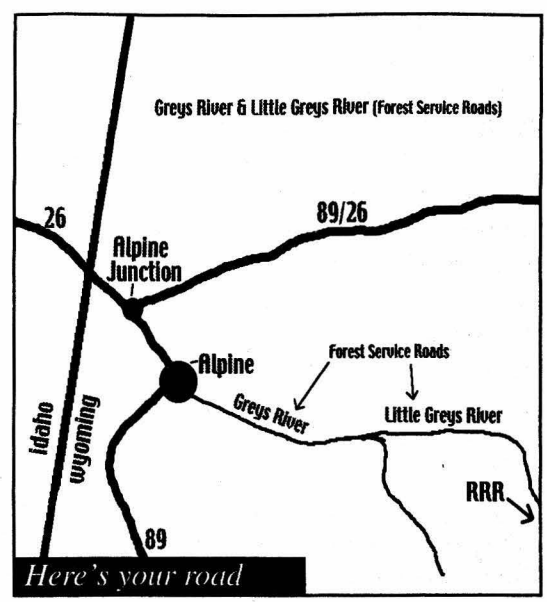
For questions, comments, etc. (RRR-specific only, please):

seymourlabya@hotmail.com

"Teewinot," incidentally, is the name the Indigenous Ones gave to the Teton Mountains of far western Wyoming: the "Hoary-Headed Fathers."

ABBEY LIVES!!! So does Hayduke.....





Gettin' On in the Wyoming Backcountry

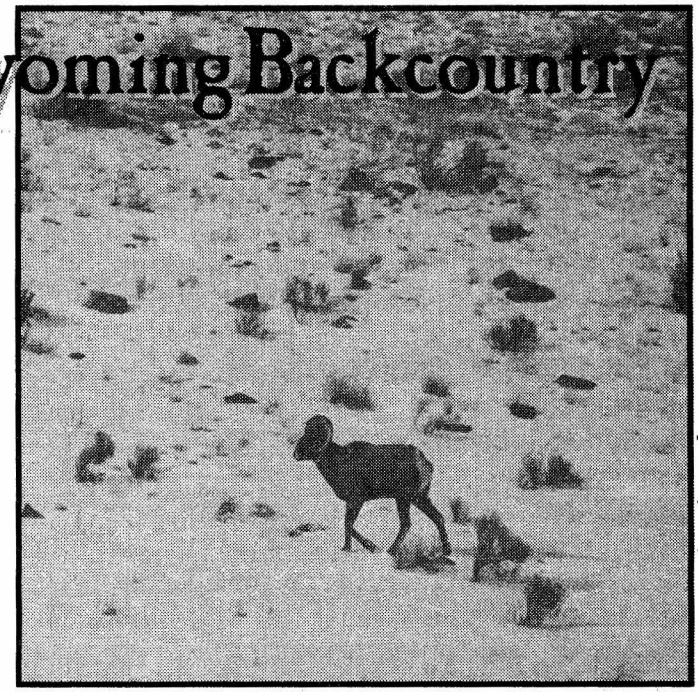


photo by Andy Peterson

BY STRIDER LONGSHANKS

The RRR site lies adjacent to the Little Greys River: a world-class trout-fishing stream. At about 7000' in elevation, the site is located in the foothills of the rugged Wyoming Mountains, not far to the southwest of the Gros Ventre Wilderness Area. Expect warm to hot days and cool nights with the ever-present possibility of afternoon and evening thunderstorms (which can be quite severe). Early mornings can be quite chilly. It can snow any month of the year in western Wyoming, and when it snows during the warm season it's always windy and raw. Go easy on yourself; come early and stay late: Adapt yourself to the elevation and climate while helping out and exploring the area. Bring your hat, sunshades, lip balm, and sunscreen. Drink much water, and pace your alcohol intake. And don't forget to eat! Bug dope of some sort may also be desirable: There are biting flies in the afternoons (and they can be obnoxious!), and mosquitoes in the evenings and early mornings. The site terrain is relatively mellow, but the surrounding mountains are quite rugged. The area the site resides in is frequented by cows, cowboys, and recreation buffs. Don't drink or wash dishes with surface water without boiling it first for at least 15 minutes. There is a spring immediately off the access road very near to the site, providing some of the best drinking water on the planet.

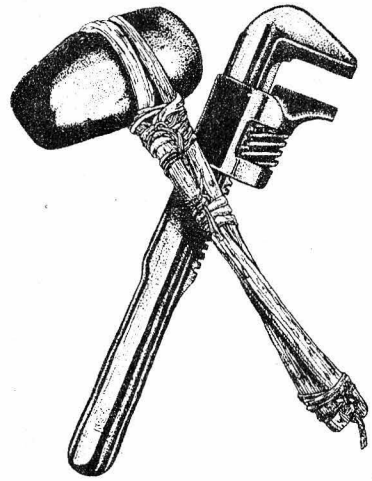
Opportunities for mountain bicycling, fishing, swimming, rafting, kayaking, hang-gliding, rock/mountain-climbing, rappelling, hiking, backpacking, and horseback riding abound, both in the immediate area as well as throughout the region. Bring your backcountry toys! Backcountry skiing and snowboarding may very well still be an option in some areas, even in mid-July. **Note: while the RRR-2001 committee has absolutely no plans to sign any land-use permits or pay any land-use fees, it is asked that individuals do purchase the proper recreation licenses and adhere to attendant regulations (e.g., fishing licenses and associated creel limits).** The Greater Teton-Yellowstone Ecosystem is hammered with recreational tourism as it is; poaching only exacerbates these impacts while alienating existing and potential allies and supporters in the local human communities. Besides that, getting caught sucks: the badges do not take kindly to poachers.

There are places to swim and sunbathe close at hand. It is recommended that each person bring a plastic whistle or something similar and carry it with them at all times: instant communications "down the line" should unfriendly eyes come a-snoopin' or unwanted hands a-gropin' (recall, for instance, the behaviour of the freddie-kops in Katuah last year regarding people's oh-so-beautiful bodies down by the riverside...). There are a number of hot springs (developed and undeveloped) within driving distance of the site.

A dog camp will be established at the RRR site; we ask that people keep their dogs close at hand and under supervision at all times. This is to protect wildlife, humans, and dogs from tragic encounters: There are bears, coyotes, wolverines, badgers, porcupines, skunks, and some rather LARGE wild kitty-cats around....

There will be a committee kitchen. And while the RRR-2001 committee will not be underscoring it, there will no doubt be a communal kitchen supported by a cooperative effort on the part of RRR attendees who use the communal kitchen. The RRR-2001 committee invites anyone interested to underscore a roadkill kitchen: wild game and fish are a traditional source of sustenance in Wyoming and the surrounding region. It is requested however that attendees refrain as diligently as possible from purchasing store-bought animal products when coming to the RRR (unless it is locally-produced organic/free-range). It is also suggested that attendees minimize to the best of their abilities their dependence upon store-bought libations. Hear that, all you home-brewers/distillers/wine-makers? We learned a valuable lesson to that end from the Katuahans last year at Frog Level in Tennessee. Of course, it NEVER hurts to solicit donations from micro-outfits and distributors...And this doesn't mean some pc lifestyle nazi will accost you should you show up with a 6-pack

of Sam Adams or a block of BGH cheese from the supermarket, but it is meant to provoke reflection regarding our personal consumptive habits as revolutionary ecologists.



And let's have some awesome workshops and seminars! Plans are afoot already for such diverse topics as nonviolence philosophy and training, direct action/protest, video activism, permaculture, organic farming, backcountry recreation, forest-watch monitoring and bio-surveying, guerrilla communications, wilderness survival, health/healing, wildcrafting, arts/crafts, music and poetry, guerrilla theater/banner-making, radikal cheerleading, media and outreach, education, children's activities, kidz liberation/unschooling/anarchist child-raising...the list goes on. How about an EF! Olympics!?! More for self-empowering enjoyment than competition, of course...

And ready yourselves for opportunities for multiple actions!!!

Things to bring: children, friends/relatives, camping gear, backcountry recreation gear (non-motorized), cookstoves, clothing for hot/dry, cool/dry, and cold/wet weather; bug repellant, sunscreen, hat, sunshades, ideas, food, open minds, whistles, medicines/personal effects, skills, rope/twine, tarps; wisdom, musical instruments and songs, poems and stories, off-beat humour; lanterns and candles/flashlights; camp and fire tools, trashbags, solar showers; coolers and hanging baskets/bags (let's keep food covered and/or off the ground as much as possible); hare-brained schemes, 2 or more pairs of shoes/boots, full gasoline cans, water containers; cameras (video and 35mm), mini-cassette recorders, twisted smiles, a stash of butt-wipe, a mutant or 2...

What not to bring: classism, sexism, racism, ageism, fascism, homophobia, xenophobia, intolerance, incontinence, weapons, explosives, motorized recreation machines, hard drugs, bullshit attitudes, an inflated sense of entitlement, power/ego trips, permits, parasites, hierarchy/authoritarianism, James Watt, brucellosis, corporate or government spooks; slackers, thieves, soul-suckers, or other human predators (hear that, John Glass?), pine beetles, nuclear waste, posers (snowboarders are ok), drilling rigs, cows, carelessness, disrespect.

Things to donate or loan to RRR-2001: lumber, tools, and carpentry skills; batteries (AAA, AA, C, D, 9-volt, automobile, marine/golfcart, rechargeable) and rechargers, solar panels; cameras (video and 35mm) and mini-cassette recorders; laptop computers, larger tents, tarps/large heavy-duty plastic sheets and canvas; loud communicators (air horns, bells, whistles); communications/scanning equipment; camp, car, and fire tools; chainsaws and fuels, power-drills, sanding machines (battery-operated), and staple guns; large kitchen stoves, campfire grills, and cookware (large); rope/twine/bungee cords (old climbing ropes are ideal); first aid/medicines and herbs (and related skills); food, beer, and other libations (especially homemade, donated, and organic ones); carts, hand trucks, and mountain bicycles; lanterns and candles, large plastic bags, empty spray bottles, solar showers, camp soap, large sheets for banners, talent, coolers and hanging baskets/bags, tables and chairs, haybales, water containers, waterproofing materials, revolutionary spirit, backcountry toys, clothing/weather-protection/footgear, latex and sex toys, how-to guides, more twisted smiles...

Label the things you loan to the collective so we can give them back to you!

If anybody has any good photos of Barry Clausen, please contact us ASAP at the aforementioned email address!

A Note From One of the Boys...

BY MIKE ROSELLE

If I recall correctly, the first RRR was at Owl Creek up in the Absaroka Mountains in Northwest Wyoming. It was being planned well before EF! was thought of, but it is where we found the first recruits. The next year it was in Moab, where we decided to publish the Journal. The next year it was in Little Granite Creek, in the Gros Ventre Mountains of Wyoming. In a way that was the first RRR, because it was the first one that would look and feel like a "normal" RRR. It was the first time we had a stage, were focused on a specific fight, and it led to the Outside article that basically defined us for the next ten years or so. The following RRR was Bald Mountain, an issue that defined us forever. So it's just like evolution: who can pinpoint the exact moment a bear became a seal? So fuck chronology, and let's celebrate our 20-year reunion in Wyoming, where the Journal was first mailed from, where 3/5ths of the founders lived, and where we won our first big victory in the Gros Ventre Mountains!

Some Ins and Outs to Better Your Stay

BY DR. SARDONICUS

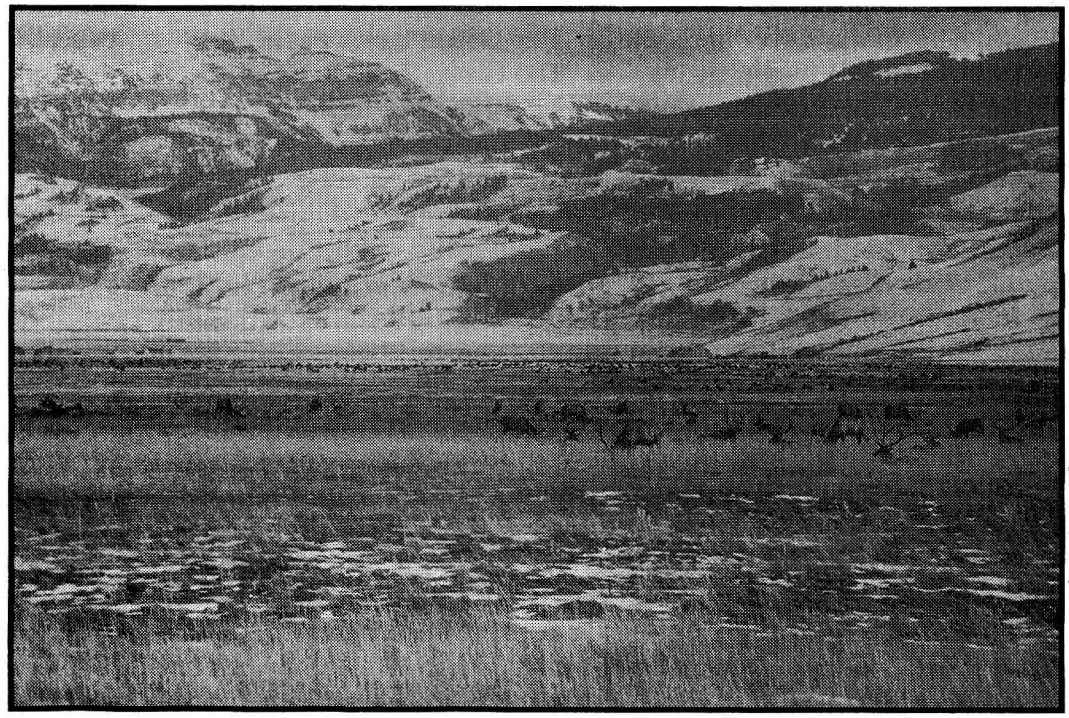


photo by Andy Peterson

Do the bulk of your shopping in places like Cheyenne, Sheridan, Gillette, Casper, Lander, and Evanston (Wyoming); Idaho Falls, Pocatello, and Blackfoot (Idaho); or Bozeman, MT. Fred Meyer's markets are a regional chain that carries a large selection that includes vegan and organic products. Generally the closer you get to the Teton-Yellowstone area the more expensive any provisions become. With one notable exception, do NOT shop in or near the town of Jackson—unless you enjoy being stuck up at the cash register: corporate outfits like Albertsons and K-mart have systematically driven locally-owned businesses in Jackson Hole right into the past, and the cost of living there has skyrocketed. **Note: "hyperboycotting" in these places is, while tempting, pragmatically discouraged.** The aforementioned Albertson's, for instance, is basically a high-security fortress disguised as a bourgie gingerbread palace. You are very likely to be caught, and would no doubt be prosecuted if caught (the Hansel and Gretel Effect... don't get arrested for stupidity!). There is an awesome 2nd-hand thrift store in downtown Jackson called Browse-&-Buy. Associated with a local church, they offer incredible deals on, well, just about everything you can think of, depending upon which day or days you choose to peruse the place. All the money they raise goes to social charity (hopefully not anti-reproductive-rights efforts). If there is any place in Jackson worth shopping, Browse-&-Buy is it. If you find something there you like, please pay for it... Jackson Hole is full of restaurants—but they ain't cheap! There is some consumer-supply infrastructure (like a reasonably complete supermarket, liquor stores, hardware stores, and auto shops) in the town of Afton (about 20 miles south of Alpine), but it may not be easy to find tofu, dental dams, or eco-flavoured asswipe. Alpine itself has a general store, 2 or 3 gas-station/convenience stores, a few cafes, a pizza joint, and the Bull Moose Saloon/Liquor Store.

Take a respectful approach with everyone you meet: There is nothing to gain by alienating anybody through bad attitudes, shitty social skills, preconceived notions, or misunderstandings. This isn't the big city. In all of our endeavours, let savvy and sophistication permeate our strategy and tactics. While not everyone in an RV, an ATV, cowboy boots, freddie uniform, tie-dye, 3-piece suit/tie, police badge, or biker leathers is our friend; not every one of them is our enemy, either...judge not—lest thou make an ass of thyself (& the rest of us).

Hitchhiking is illegal in Wyoming; what happens to you if caught can be good or bad—depending upon which cop sees you alongside the road. Rides are usually quite easy to get, however, particularly around the Greater Teton-Yellowstone area.

Freight trains! The freight lines pass through such places as Cody, Casper, and Rock Springs, WY as well as Pocatello and Idaho Falls, ID and Bozeman and Livingston, MT. These are the closest points to Alpine. While one can ride the trains to within a few hours' drive, the rail lines don't come into the immediate area of the RRR site.

babylon.com WILL FALL... GAIA WILL PREVAIL!!!

Wyoming: Oil and Gas Sacrifice Zone or Wild Wild West?

BY PHIL KNIGHT, NATIVE FOREST NETWORK LAST REFUGE CAMPAIGN

Nowhere in the lower 48 is the controversy hotter over oil and gas development than in the sparely-populated, quintessentially western state of Wyoming. The Bush administration, backed by western Senators, is clamoring to throw public lands wide open once again to full-scale oil and gas development. Realizing he will have a tough fight on his hands to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to drilling, Bush is poised to offer an evil trade-off: Save ANWR but open other controversial western lands—such as northwestern Wyoming-to exploitation.

Wyoming is a land of spectacular natural areas such as the Wind River Mountain Range, Red Desert, Washakie Wilderness, Green River Basin, Hoback Basin and the Teton Mountain Range. But Wyoming is under assault by oil and gas companies intent on exploiting hysteria over a looming "energy crisis" and in cashing in on public resources. Despite the fact that less than one percent of the nation's oil and gas production comes from national forest lands, there is great pressure to drill on remote public lands. "You can't have Wyoming be a pristine, untouched area and still be a major natural gas producer," said Russell L. Kirlin, the regional manager for Questar, a natural gas company. "You have to decide what you want."

Wyoming is soon to outpace Texas as the country's leading producer of natural gas. Because natural gas prices have doubled or tripled in many parts of the United States, BP Amoco has begun its largest exploration project in the lower 48 states in the Wamsutter area, where it operates 475 wells. It plans to drill 120 natural gas wells this year and then 200 wells each year through 2004.

The Green River Basin

The Green River Basin of southwest Wyoming is also under assault for natural gas. A dense web of powerlines, pipelines, waste pits and roads could eventually cover a huge portion of the Green River Basin south of Pinedale, Wyoming, if the BLM proceeds with its plan to increase oil and gas development in the area. Energy companies want to pierce the western flanks of the Wind River Range with as many as 900 new natural gas wells on almost 200,000 acres.

By approving such large scale development, the BLM is perpetuating Wyoming's history of boom and bust. In its recently-released Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Pinedale Anticline Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Project, the BLM admits that the project will have significant impacts on water and air quality and wildlife populations. According to the DEIS, "No technically or economically feasible level of mitigation can be applied in these areas to minimize the severity of impacts...The only way to eliminate these impacts would be to take the lease rights granted to the lessee...."

Historically, pronghorn, elk, bison, and deer migrated through the Pinedale area between summer ranges within the Greater Teton-Yellowstone Ecosystem and winter ranges in the Green River Basin. The pronghorn migration through western Wyoming is the longest of any ungulate in North America save the caribou in Alaska.

Please ask the BLM to: discontinue new leasing and lapse expiring leases in Green River Basin; require that pad drilling be used and production facilities be centralized to minimize the cumulative effects of industrialization; limit well density to no more than one well per square mile; limit development and travel in the project area during critical wintering periods for deer and pronghorn; during the spring, require stipulations to protect breeding and nesting areas of sage grouse and birds of prey; require that operators fund wildlife monitoring studies for the duration of the project.

Send or email your comments to the BLM:

- Bill McMahan, Project Manager
  280 Highway 191 North
  Rock Springs, WY 82901
  bill_mcmahan@blm.gov
- Tom Fry, BLM Director Pinedale Anticline DEIS
  1849 C Street NW LSB-204
  Washington, DC 20240
  janice_shay@blm.gov

Governor Demands Development of Bridger-Teton

Wyoming Governor Jim Geringer is pressuring the Bridger-Teton National Forest (B-T) to open 370,000 acres for oil and gas development. The B-T, in northwest Wyoming, is currently protected from this abuse, and includes key wildlife habitat and watersheds adjacent to Wilderness areas in the Greater Teton-Yellowstone Ecosystem. In December 2000, Forest Supervisor Kniffy Hamilton proposed withdrawing these same 370,000 acres from oil and gas development, following the lead of Gloria Flora, former Lewis and Clark National Forest (Montana) Supervisor, who withdrew 400,000 acres on Montana's Rocky Mountain Front in 1998.

Gov. Geringer wrote in a March 15, 2001 letter to Hamilton "that to proceed with your ...preferred alternative would not be in the best interest of our people." The governor requested that Hamilton re-

evaluate and delay her decision to keep the affected areas closed to oil and gas development. The oil and gas industry estimates that about 4 days of fossil fuels, at current American consumption rates, may be extracted from this area of the Bridger-Teton National Forest.

"In his zeal to make Wyoming the oil waste pit of the West, the Governor has lost touch with the will of the people," said Meredith Taylor of the Wyoming Outdoor Council. More than ninety-eight percent of the public who commented support protecting these pristine lands from fossil fuel development. Eighty percent of the Wyoming citizens at hearings across the state opposed drilling the B-T. The Teton County Commission, area businesses, recreationists, hunters and anglers have all endorsed the Forest Service position to protect this area which holds the headwaters of three of the nation's major waterways—the Yellowstone, the Green and the Snake Rivers.

Strangely enough, Republican Wyoming Senator Craig Thomas also supports the Bridger-Teton Supervisor's decision to protect critical lands on the B-T. In a recent letter Senator Thomas wrote, "I certainly agree that we must work to ensure that the natural beauty of the Bridger-Teton National Forest is protected. At this time, I believe other areas in the state are more appropriate for oil and gas exploration. Clearly, some areas should and deserve to be protected-the Bridger-Teton National Forest is one of those areas."

"Eighty nine percent of Wyoming is already open for oil and gas leasing. The governor has taken an extreme position by advocating that remaining roadless areas should be drilled as well," said Scott Groene of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition.

Please write and call Wyoming Governor Jim Geringer. Remind him who owns the Bridger-Teton: Not oil and gas companies or the state of Wyoming, but the American people.

•Governor Jim Geringer
State Capitol Building, Room 124
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 777-7434

Also contact Kniffy Hamilton, and urge her to hold the line against drilling on the Bridger-Teton. Thank her for her decision to protect the land.

•Kniffy Hamilton
Supervisor, Bridger-Teton
PO Box 1888 Jackson WY 83001

Drilling the Ramshorn

North of the B-T, along the southeastern flank of the rugged high country called the Washakie Wilderness, the Shoshone National Forest has approved an exploratory oil/natural gas well, Scott Well #2, under Ramshorn Peak near the headwaters of Tappan Creek and Brent Creek. The oil and gas industry has been chomping at the bit to get into this area of the Shoshone National Forest. The well site will sit within crucial habitat for migrating elk, grizzly bears, grey wolves, lynx and other amazing and imperiled creatures. This is no place for new roads, well pads, drill rigs, heavy equipment, pits of petroleum residue, generators, compressors, and constant burning of gas flares. If the operator, Hudson Group, discovers commercial quantities of oil or gas, full field development will bring more roads, pipelines, gas "sweetening" plants, dehydrators, condensate tanks, power lines, and around the clock industrial activity in an area known for its abundance and diversity of wildlife and its recreation opportunities. The Wyoming Outdoor Council, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, the Sierra Club, Native Forest Network and many Wyoming citizens have long fought the industrialization of this extraordinary natural landscape. A lawsuit against the well by Earthjustice Legal Defense is currently pending in federal court, and could be resolved any day.

To get involved, CONTACT:

•Meredith Taylor, Wyoming Outdoor Council, 307-455-2161, www.wyomingoutdoorcouncil.org

•Scott Groene, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, 307-734-6004, www.greateryellowstone.org

•Pam Lichtman, Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance, 307-733-9417

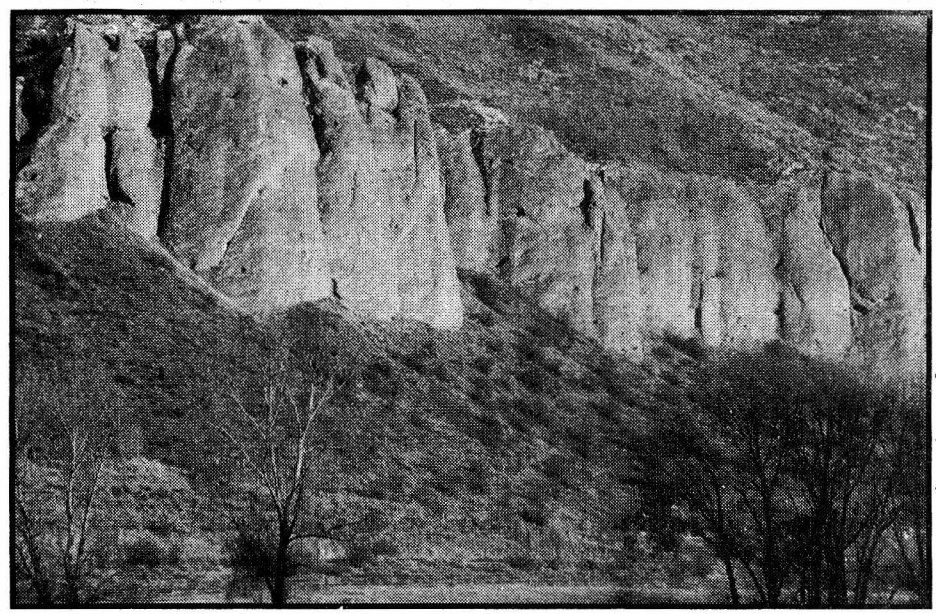


photo by Andy Peterson

Wyoming Bison Face Hunting Threat

BY FESTUS THE SNOW-RANGER

In 1968, 15 bison escaped from a fenced 'wildlife park' inside of Grand Teton National Park. They were allowed to roam free and have mixed with migrants from Yellowstone National Park and grown to a herd of 600 animals. The Jackson Hole bison herd spends the summer in Grand Teton Park, and, since 1975, has moved onto the National Elk Refuge just south of the park to take advantage of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife winter feeding program.

This small herd has been targeted as a threat to the Elk Refuge and Wyoming's lucrative elk-hunting industry, and a new plan is in the works to limit the bison's population to the current level. The main thrust of the plan will be to institute a bison hunt on the National Elk Refuge. The Wyoming Game and Fish department has held small hunts on National Forest land adjacent to the park, but is truly limited in its desire to check the growth of this herd without a refuge hunt.

The Elk Refuge and the winter feeding program were started by a group of local ranchers after a harsh winter killed thousands of elk in the area. The program now uses trucks to dispense bentonite-bound alfalfa pellets to over 10,000 elk and 600 bison throughout the winter. The feed keeps the elk herd at an unnaturally high number, providing a plethora of trophy kills for slob hunters that descend on the area in the fall. This feed has also helped the bison herd to grow at an accelerated rate. Bison that would normally birth in May are calving as early as December on the Elk Refuge. The most dangerous side effect of the feeding program is the increased spread of disease brought about by the unnatural clustering of the herds.

Elk Refuge managers acknowledge the need to end the feeding program, but claim public pressure makes it nearly impossible. Local ranchers and hunting outfitters came to a recent pre-scoping meeting with buttons that said, "Just Say No To Buffalo on the Elk Refuge." The short-sighted hunting lobby claims that bison are dangerous and destructive-in a valley that has been ravaged over the last 30 years by subdivisions, celebrity ranchettes, and monster trophy homes!

With a new planning process for the Jackson Hole bison and elk herds, the time is ripe to end the feeding program. The fact is that bison have inhabited Jackson Hole for thousands of years. Cancellation of the feeding program would result in healthier, more naturally distributed herds. The removal of cattle grazing inside Grand Teton Park would also provide more winter forage for wildlife. Preservation of migration corridors to the south and east would allow the animals to migrate to the lower elevations they historically used as winter range.

The new plan is still in the pre-scoping phase, with alternatives for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement to come. Planning meetings have so far been limited to Jackson and Cody, WY. This is a national issue, and meetings should be held in other regions as well. Please write the Jackson Bison and Elk Planning Office, PO Box 510 Jackson, WY 83001, requesting public meetings in other locations, an end to the feeding program, and equal treatment of the bison and elk on the refuge. And make sure you check around the Blacktail Butte and Kelly areas of Grand Teton National Park after the RRR for a look at this magnificent herd. For more information on Jackson bison or the Yellowstone bison herd and the struggle to bring them justice, contact:

Buffalo Field Campaign
PO Box 957
West Yellowstone, MT 59798,
buffalo@wildrockies.org.

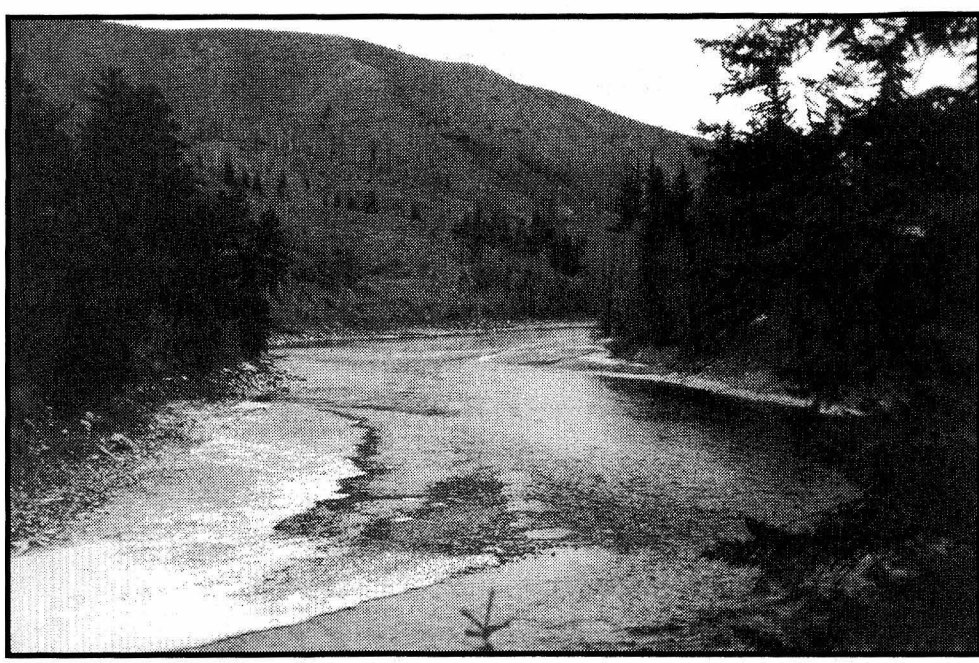


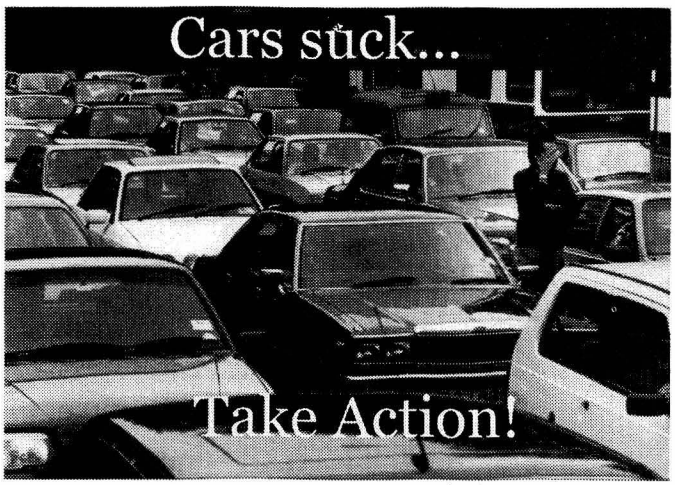
photo by Andy Peterson

DEAR NED LUDD

A How-to Guide to the Sport and Science of SUV Mischief

Howdy folks,

Ned here, back after a long hiatus. I stumbled upon this little ditty in Slingshot *and I was intrigued by the idea of SUV tipping. I'd like for Dear Ned Ludd to be an at least semi-regular column, so y'all send your submissions about your favorite sabbing techniques to Dear Ned Ludd, POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. Wrench for your Mother. Wrench for the beauty of nature. Wrench because it feels good. And, of course, don't get caught!*



BY P. WINGNUT

Flatcats have struck again.

Somewhere in the East Bay Hills, in a quiet, wealthy neighborhood very early in the morning when all is still, a pair of hands works silently. Suddenly there is a slight hiss, and the front tire of a four-ton Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV) goes flat. Flyers denouncing fossil fuel use, driving, poor urban planning and corporate domination that make SUVs possible are carefully placed under windshield wipers. Another mission accomplished.

The art, science and sport of SUV mischief is expanding rapidly in many urban areas to combat auto domination, although to date these clandestine actions have been completely suppressed by mainstream media outlets fearful of encouraging greater numbers of participants in this do-it-yourself sport. SUVs are a symbolic target, since they are permitted to emit five-and-one-half times as much smog-causing pollution per mile as cars under federal law. However the real goal is drastically reducing everyday dependence on all types of cars, not just SUVs. Car-culture must be fought not only to prevent global climate change, but because car dependence destroys urban areas, crushes opportunities for community and impoverishes the spirit.

Flatcats deflate SUV tires without destroying the tire or tube, aiming, for now, at annoyance rather than property destruction. Their website notes that, "We are, however, sorry to target individuals in this manner." But the auto culture is so firmly entrenched, where to start? Authors of auto-domination are many, powerful and disbursed: Corporations of all kinds (auto, oil, road building, developers) and governments they dominate.

Following are some tips for becoming a flatcat in your neighborhood:

—Go to an auto parts store and buy a valve core remover. These are often fastened to valve caps found in most auto parts stores.

—Attach it to a quarter-inch dowel (found at hobby stores) or, for faster action, a cordless screwdriver. Out in the field, you remove the valve cap, put the core remover on and turn. You don't need to completely remove the core to let all the air out.

—Acting in a tiny group is best, but only with trusted friends and with as few as possible, for security. One or two lookouts, plus a person on the valve is best. For added security, a person at home in case of trouble. The person at home doesn't need to know what is planned.

—If the lookouts spot someone, pick an innocent signal, like yelling a common name. Don't yell "cops!"

—*Never* talk or brag about actions, or discuss them on the phone, inside a building or near strangers. Folks bragging may be cops.

—Wear gloves. Any tools should be free of fingerprints.

—Make a flyer explaining what is going on. When making the flyer, don't use unusual fonts (use Helvetica). Consider printing the flyers out at a copy store to make it harder to track computer printer models. Never retain originals or computer copies of flyers.

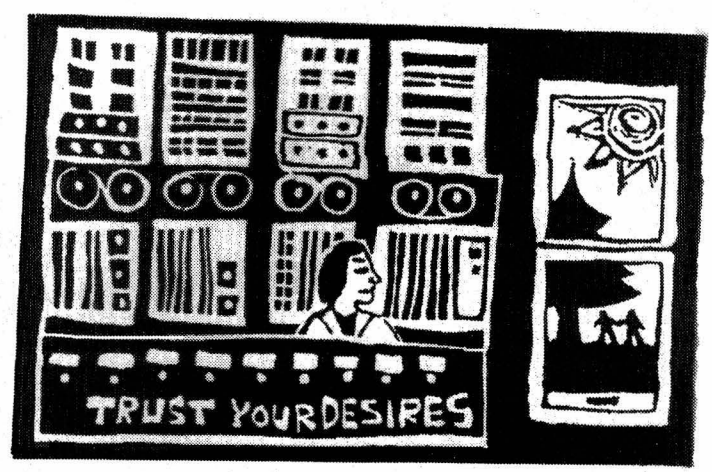
—Dress like you belong where you're doing the action and have a normal activity you are engaged in: walking the dog, jogging, etc.

—When finished, don't head toward your home. Go in the opposite direction and then turn back after a while.

—Use a bike for transport. There is no license plate to trace.

—If caught, don't admit to anything, don't talk, don't argue or sloganize, try to get away before cops arrive. If caught by cops, say nothing and wait for your lawyer.

—Create beauty, have fun and don't get caught.



Armed with Visions

Clear as Cut Glass and Just as Dangerous

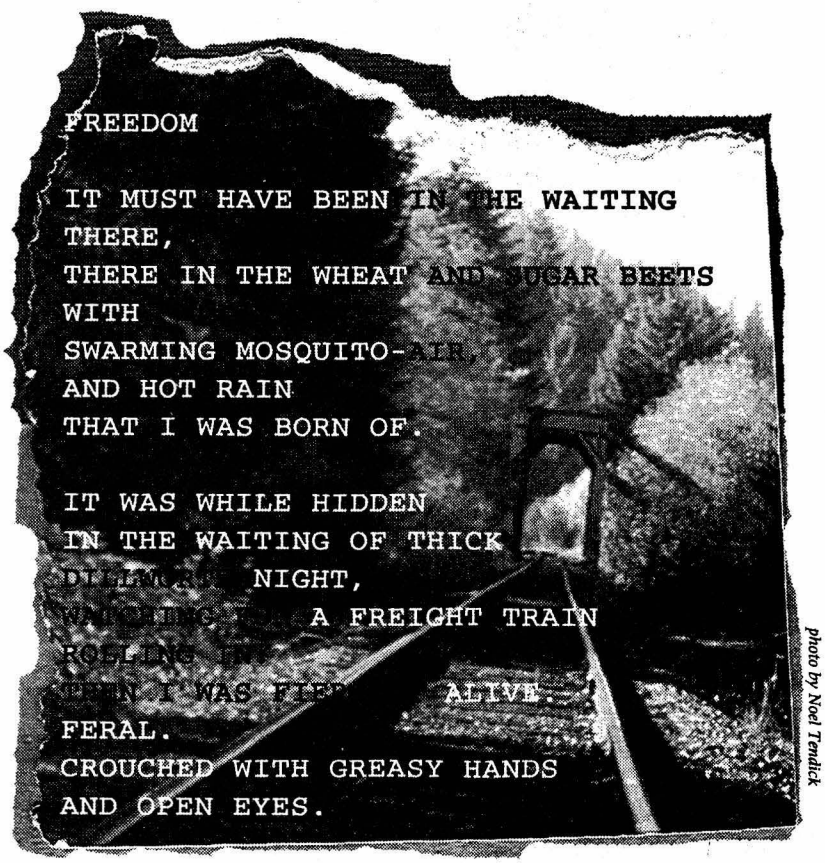


photo by Noel Tendick

—SPRING

Dear Friends:

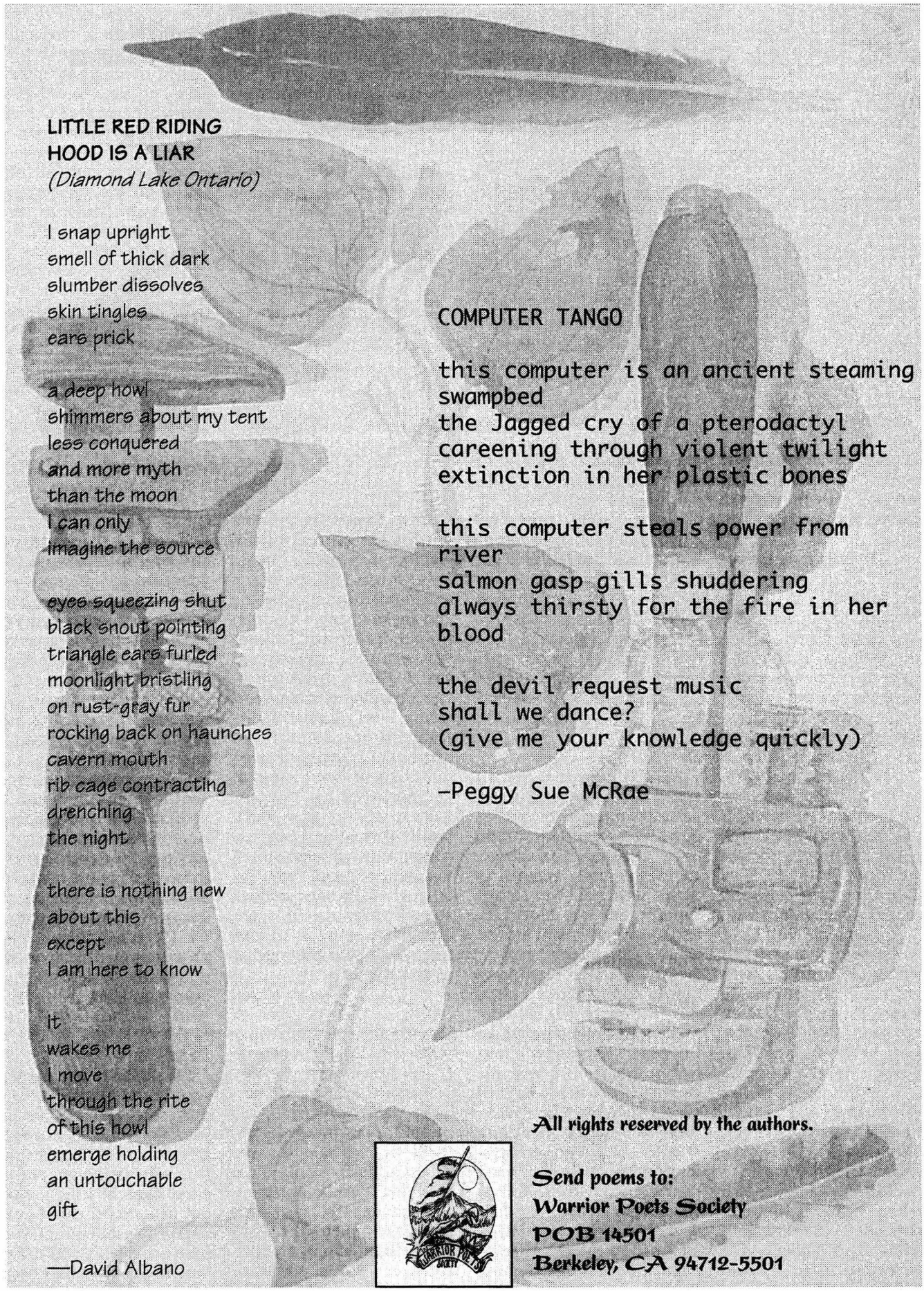
Come! here! awake! now!
Listen!
to the breaking heart of mother earth.
Hear it as grass pushing up through sidewalk cracks,
As daisies blazing open in the strip mall.
The white birch bends to you.
A spider crawls from the corner.
Ants march across brown tiles.
River becomes ocean becomes rain
Roaring down gutters.
Hear her muted voice.
Beneath concrete she is crying
All things live forever;
But all things die many too soon.

Right here! Right now!
Only our fear keeps us sleepwalking and deaf.
Earth maidens, warriors, poets, priests
Arise from the warm den of your dreams.
No time left!
Her body is ours, our body is hers.
Let her heartbeat pulse through you
Every struggling salmon, every cut redwood,
Every plant gone from this earth forever.

Listen to your own breaking heart.
Start where you are, no matter how sad:
Cry, but let fear drop in the terror of destruction.
Dance down logging roads.
Plant yourself there beneath a thousand blazing stars
Each one another being to save.
Howl and sing and laugh at the machines
Like crows chasing hawks from the nest.
Be fierce as a mother bear;
Otherwise there will be no world for our children.

Lone coyote loping along snow vows
All beings, one body; we must fight for life.

—Annie Dille



LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD IS A LIAR

(Diamond Lake Ontario)

I snap upright
smell of thick dark
slumber dissolves
skin tingles
ears prick

a deep howl
shimmers about my tent
less conquered
and more myth
than the moon
I can only
imagine the source

eyes squeezing shut
black snout pointing
triangle ears furled
moonlight bristling
on rust-gray fur
rocking back on haunches
cavern mouth
rib cage contracting
drenching
the night

there is nothing new
about this
except
I am here to know

it
wakes me
I move
through the rite
of this howl
emerge holding
an untouchable
gift

—David Albano

COMPUTER TANGO

this computer is an ancient steaming swampbed
the Jagged cry of a pterodactyl careening through violent twilight extinction in her plastic bones

this computer steals power from river
salmon gasp gills shuddering always thirsty for the fire in her blood

the devil request music
shall we dance?
(give me your knowledge quickly)

–Peggy Sue McRae

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Send poems to:
Warrior Poets Society
POB 14501
Berkeley, CA 94712-5501

Dear Shit fer Brains...

Dear Ed.,

I have an addendum to the letter in issue 21:4 signed "Pete Seeger." In his considerable wisdom, Pete can't be suggesting the masthead read "Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth." Can he? I am in sympathy to the need for puncturing pomposity and exposing exaggeration too. So here's my two cents, for what it's worth. The change of one letter will make it read "con-promise." "No Conpromise in Defense of Mother Earth." Muddying the already troubled waters? Perhaps. But it holds up as a declaration of opposition to "promises" which are "cons" or con jobs. False promises. A promising position.

Signed,

—Brother Humble

Fellow Radicals,

Welcome to the desert my brothers and sisters of the Earth! Gotta cop, at first I thought the desert sucked but, over the years, have come to appreciate and dig the scene. Besides, any place where the good Lord has seen to bless us with psychedelic cacti and toads has its bright spots.

One problem I am having is connecting with local radicals. Yes, it's groovy to read about scenes in *Earth First! Journal, Green Anarchist* and so on, or to plot actions with the European Anarchist Black Cross, but something remains lacking until uniting with nearby freaks. Ah, one reason why the EF! move to Tucson brings hope.

I been in this fuckin' death row cage since 1984 but do what I can to smash the state from here. Even went so far as to do the university thing, earning a Bachelors in English from Ohio U. and a Masters in Literature from Cal. State. So if I can help with reviewing, edit work or whatever, I am at your service (and no, fuck pay—I'm into it for free). In fact, it would be really cool if someone would contact me to consider ways I could be of use—advantage: I'm already imprisoned for the duration so have no need to worry about pigs.

I also do some writing. Two of my pieces—a "zine" called *Decidedly Radical* (numerous antiestablishment articles) and an article on *Control Unit Prisons* (history of and critique on) have received kudos. Would be happy to turn you on to them to distribute, sell or whatever. Let me know.

I'm hoping that by communicating with y'all about helping out that this will lead to several friendships with radicals—being surrounded by concrete, steel, pigs and snivelin' inmates is getting real old... so fuckin' 911! Write back!

Again, welcome, and your defense of the mother is outtasight. Do write soon.

Love, peace, hope,

—Frankie Atwood
ADC #62887
Box 3400 – SMU II
Florence, AZ 85232

drawing by Frankie Atwood

Dear SFB,

Yes it's true that we all talked about tree spiking and dozer burning in the old EF! days. It was mostly just talk, and the people I worked with spent our time organizing public protests. I will always support tree-sits, blockades and other nonviolent protest actions with all my heart. As far as nonviolent property destruction (where no one's life is threatened), it may make sense in a case where there is widespread community resistance, for example the bolt weevil action in Minnesota where local farmers initiated the monkeywrenching of high voltage power transmission lines that threatened their farms. But in Oregon it is counterproductive. All it does is make environmentalists look bad to the mainstream population. No one is going to save forests by burning down a few offices. It's not glamorous or quick, but we have to win over the hearts and minds of ordinary people and make changes through the political system. I'm convinced it is the only way and that ELF-type vandalism in Oregon amounts to mere posturing. I feel we have made a tremendous amount of progress in changing people's minds about forest issues in Oregon in the last 15 years. ELF's arson fire at a small, family-owned mill in my community outraged a lot of mainstream people who are otherwise fairly open-minded about environmental issues. This is a setback in our struggle to stop the logging of native forests.

—Kelpie Wilson

Dear Crap in the Cranium:

Edward Abbey's Advice to Frazzled Environmentalists:

"Do not burn yourself out. Be as I am—a reluctant enthusiast, a part-time crusader, a half-hearted fanatic. Save the other half of yourselves and your lives for pleasure and adventure. It is not enough to fight for the West; it is even more important to enjoy it. While you can. While it is still here.

So get out there and hunt and fish, mess around with your friends, ramble out yonder and explore the forests, encounter the grizz, climb the mountains, bag the peaks, run the rivers, breathe deep of that yet sweet and lucid air, sit quietly for awhile and contemplate the precious stillness, that lovely, mysterious and awesome space.

Enjoy yourselves, keep your brain in your body, the body active and alive. I promise you this one sweet victory over our enemies, over those deskbound men with their hearts in a safe deposit box and their eyes hypnotized by desk calculators, I promise you this: you will outlive the bastards."

Love and Rage,

—The MASHH Clinic

Dear SFB,

I need help! I'm in high school, and I started an environmental club. At first my principal wouldn't let me, but after a month of persistence I won. I put up posters and flyers all over the school, (made out of recycled paper), only nine people showed up! I know nine people can still make a difference, but the nine people

were my close friends. They would have come because I asked them. Since the first meeting the number of people has dwindled down to about five. And the five people that do come only want to talk about what's happening to the Earth, or their thoughts on action extend to having a better recycling program at school or picking up trash along the highways. I've tried to get guest speakers to come and talk to us. After they've said their piece to us, I ask them what action we can take. The response every time is, "Write letters to your local representatives and congressmen." I am not content with this. I feel like I have a tremendous amount of energy in my mind and body, but I feel like this growth is being stunted. I feel like I'm suffocating. I need some help with my organizing skills. My club is dying, is dead, I'm not sure where to start. There is so much pressure in my life right now, I'm told I need to make high scores, good grades, etc. so I can go to college. I don't know if I want to go to college right away! Part of me wants to run into the forest and stay there forever and another part of me wants to go to college so I can learn the tangled system of today's world, so I can get in there and make a difference. Then sometimes I just want to die. I'm *not* another sentimental whiner, I know living to help the Earth is better than dying. I just want to wake up from this weird nightmare. My Sisters and Brothers where are you? I know the *Journal* is sick of getting "complaining/ranting" mail, but after weeks of wandering, I hope through this letter, someone will hear me! If you can help me out with club organizing, or if you just want to write me at sandithra@hotmail.com.

Love,

—Ramona

Hello,

This is a letter I thought I would never be sending. I grew up in a logging town in Oregon. I was sent to school with money earned from the timber industry. I grew up in a strong economy due to the timber sales. I have been able to successfully ignore your organization up until now.

I would love to open an intelligent dialect with a spokesman from ELF. I am not a radical on either side of your issue. I have always been one to believe that intelligent persons could come to a compromise without stooping to immature behavior. I believe it sends the wrong message. My grandfather taught me that yelling is for those who are not smart enough to talk. The same way that fighting is for those who are not smart enough to reason.

Make no mistake about it, I am fully capable of both yelling and fighting, however out of dignity and respect I choose not to unless it is unavoidable.

I am having trouble with your demand for everyone on the planet to see things your way. One thing you are fond of saying is "no compromises." How on Earth could you ever expect success in your endeavors with an unwillingness to accept any compromise?

I am sensitive to your goals. I grew up in the outdoors. Long before it was the cool thing to drink bottled water and long before the term SUV was heard. Up until the age of 19, I probably spent a quarter of my free time in the woods. I love nature. I also have the deep-rooted belief that God has given us the Earth to use. Not destroy, not to waste. However, I truly believe that it would be common sense to use the resources we have been given. I am typing this on an oak desk, inside of my house built with Douglas fir lumber, with a wood stove heating my home.

I don't want to see the world as one giant parking lot, nobody does. However, I will continue to believe it is right to use what we have been given in a responsible way.

One more question I have for you is regarding your domestic terrorism. I was trained in the United States Army by the Special Forces, while stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. I can not condone any terrorist action you encourage or organize. I have been to too many countries where people like you would have been unceremoniously shot on sight. How can you think you have the right? Do I have the right to go burn down your headquarters just because I don't agree with your views? I hope you would say no. Do I have the right to destroy your equipment? Do I have the right to put your life at risk?

Just because you have the ability, doesn't mean you have the right. I have many abilities: I am a trained sniper, I am trained with explosives, booby traps, I am trained in hand to hand combat and many other nasty fields. According to your beliefs, as I understand them, I could, without remorse, unleash whatever methods I chose to silence your organization. Would that be fair? Moral? Right? I hope we would agree that the answer is no.

So please help me to make the connection. I just don't get it I guess. I am awaiting a response and hope you choose to mail me back. That's right, it is a choice, paid for by people like me who have ensured your freedom and rights by serving in the military of the greatest nation on our planet.

Thank you for your time.

—Jason C. Smith
Awtwac@aol.com

Attention:

A complaint has been filed against your organization, Earth First, here in Ohio. The complaint states that your organization has affixed the enclosed stickers ["I'm Polluting the Planet!"] directly to Ohio residents' automobiles without their permission. This type of vandalism is a criminal offense and should be halted.

—Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Editor's Note: The gall some folks have! The Journal *is having a blowout sale in honor of our Ohio comrades. Receive two "I'm Polluting the Planet!" stickers for $1 (good while supplies last).*

continued on next page

Dear S#@! fer Brains...

continued from previous page

Dear SFB,

I was chilled today to learn of a USGS scientist who was fired for putting a map of caribou calving sites in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge on a USGS website.

This was reported very briefly in the *LA Times* a week or so ago, but does not seem to have had much coverage nationally.

This is truly stuff out of a bad movie. A scientist spends three years on a website which provides 20,000 maps of wildlife distribution and characteristics in America, and worldwide.

Yet, when a single final map, giving the American people information about caribou calving areas in their arctic wildlife refuge is published, the scientist is fired the next day, and the website is taken down.

This should be huge news. It demonstrates the kind of ball (hard) the current administration is willing to play to get its short-sighted policies accomplished.

Please take note, and take advantage of this huge opportunity to expose this incredible story of censorship on the Bush administration's part to keep the American people in the dark, and to attempt to minimize opposition to drilling in the ANWR by any means.

Sincerely,

—I. Reid

Dear shit for brains,

A quick suggestion for halfpint and any other would-be Earth warriors out there who might find the $18 cover price on *Ecodefense* unreasonably oppressive: Call your local Barnes & Noble or Borders and have them special order a copy for you (since they're obviously not going to carry it in stock), and then when they notify you that the book is in, go down to the store and steal it.

—Raven & Worms

Dear SFB,

In the recent April Fools issue I found the cover to be very offensive. Okay, so it is supposed to be a spoof, a joke. *Bullshit.* In June I'm having a baby, does that make me less of an environmentalist, or a person who loves *Mother Earth*? What about all you who are against *breeding*; have you thought about how you got here and what your purpose really is? Maybe you should all kill *yourselves*. To say that a person can't consciously raise another human being is ludicrous. What are we supposed to do, just let the ignorant keep bringing children into the world, not raising them to love their mother? In 20 years there will be no conscious children left. I find this organization to be very hypocritical. I picked up the merchandise catalog to look through it. I got to the page with the stickers and couldn't believe what some of them were stating. *Love your mother don't become one, etc.* and on the page right next to it was a picture of a child wearing an *Earth First!* t-shirt that is for sale in the catalog. What kind of message is that? That takes me back to the cover of the April Fools issue, but there's no connection, its just a joke. *Get real!* All of you people who are against breeding, like I said, really need to put yourself in check. The organization shouldn't be about *hate*, especially of an innocent, beautiful child. You should be glad people like me are having children to help educate people like you!

Sincerely,

—C.D.
Tucson, AZ

Hi,

Real smart! You end up "saving" the planet. Your lifespan if you're lucky is 70-80 years. Then you die leaving the environment. Now what?! Your soul is eternal, not this Earth. God will burn the Earth and destroy your life's work. (Read 2 Peter 3:10). And unless you wake up he will burn you too. (Read Rev. 20:11-15).

—Anonymous

Editor's Note: Thanks for the postcard, "Where will you spend Eternity? With God or Satan?" We were so moved, we thought all our readers would get a kick out of seeing the fan mail the Journal *receives.*

Dear SFB,

Looks like a good time to have some don't buy nuthin' days. Some don't buy any Exxon/Mobil or don't buy any petroleum products at all days, some don't buy meat days, some don't buy anything made in the USA days, etc.

Have a nice day.

Fuck shit up.

—MooreDogfolk@aol.com

Dear Shit fer Brains,

What happened to Ned Ludd? It was the best regular article in the *Journal.* Earth First! seems to be moving away from the idea of monkeywrenching, if not completely against it. The best thing about Earth First! has always been its no compromise, do anything for the Earth ideas. If we aren't careful, it could become nothing more than another Sierra Club. I mean, lately Greenpeace has been involved in more direct action than Earth First!. Instead of simply reporting on the ELF's work, why not start some of our own?

Monkeywrench the future (and Earth First!),

—Bonnie Abbzug

Editor's Note: We hear ya loud and clear, and we are happy to see Dear Ned Ludd back among our ranks this issue (see page 45). To keep Ned around, we need all you creative types out there to send us your useful, thoughtful tactics in the struggle against the modern industrial juggernaut.

Dear Brown Matter,

I'm getting a bit exasperated

by all this whining over "property destruction" (see *EF!J* March–April 2001). Property *is* destruction! It replaces the animate with inanimate, removes the organic in favor of the fabricated. This holiest of sacred cows—the physical embodiment of Capital—property is inimical to nature.

Why is it perfectly okay for one citizen (envision your average stuffed suit insolently sitting back in a climate-controlled executive suite in Downtown, USA) to decree the spoil and plunder of a distant ancient forest or arctic refuge, with no regard even for the future of his own grandchildren? But along come a few spirited individuals who ignite some half-built empty shell of an abode in an isolated, uninhabited development, and by god you're ready to call them names (sick, demented, criminal, Beavis & Butthead?) and condemn them to the "fullest extent of the law!?" What would that be, the death penalty? These "fruit loops" have actually chosen their targets quite conscientiously and effectively to avoid harming people while maximizing monetary damage. Meanwhile the self-ordained public heroes are out wasting time extinguishing harmless flames while there are drowning babies and dying grandpas who need your help!

Excuse me, Earth activists, whose side are you on? As one jovial prankster once said, "You're either on the bus or off the bus." Let property dissolve into the impermanent illusion it represents—the American Dream. That dream, based on the idea and attainment of "personal property," was built on the slaughtered backs of indigenous people. Never forget this brutal fact.

Through our actions we can be a part of the human virus which is killing Gaia, or we can be the antibodies which fight the disease. It's time to accept and submit to our losses. Why not help out and burn some of your own property? It's all stolen property anyway!

Let it Burn... For the Wild,

—Desert Wolf

FYI: Ed Abbey may have lived near the desert, but he did not require a grotesquely wasteful monstrosity in which to live.

Dear SFB,

Here I sit in a Canadian jail, day three of a 30-day sentence. Eleven of us were charged with breaking a May 10 injunction prohibiting us with interfering with Texada Land Corporation's logging operations on Saltspring Island. They've come into our community, started to rape our mountains and destroy our last intact watershed. When they started they gave the community a code of principles which they abandoned from day one. Using terror tactics, they tried to scare us into submission, but Saltspringers are a rare breed that won't be bullied. After raising hundreds of thousands of dollars to try and buy back our watershed and pristine mountains, they held us hostage by demanding five times the assessed value of the land. Monies were raised through bake sales, art auctions, benefit shows and dances and a calendar featuring Saltspring goddesses posing nude in different spots on the island (very tasteful and beautiful I might add). Finally, after all legal avenues were exhausted we resorted to civil disobedience—mostly lockdowns with lock boxes and sleeping dragons. An 88-year-old grandmother and raging granny stood before a logging truck with two supporters. All three were arrested. I was arrested and was assaulted by a volunteer fireman called to cut me off the truck. Later, I learned he was a full-time employee of Dorman Timber, a subcontractor of Texada Land Corporation. There were numerous other assaults during, before and after said lockdowns. Two by Dorman owner Brian Dorman during lockdowns, one by Tim Dorman trying to frame an innocent bystander for which he perjured himself in court. Fortunately, the recipient was acquitted. Eight of us were found guilty, one acquitted and two didn't show for trial (bench warrants were issued). The accused ranged from 16 and 17, me 28 (single dad), 41-year-old male, 44-year-old single mother of two, 47-year-old carpenter and father and 88-year-old grandmother. One of the youth has been a member of mensa since she was 11. We had lots of support throughout our two-week-long trial.

At the end of the crown's closing (the crown is Canadian for prosecuting attorney), he was interrupted when the courtroom on the 4th floor started shaking. Mother Earth was responding with an earthquake. Once the shaking stopped the crown said, "I guess that's all" then the courtroom erupted with applause.

Natural law will prevail,

—J. Flis

PS: While pregnant, my wife was arrested during the Warner Creek blockades, so my daughter had been to jail before me. No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth!

Dear SFB,

Re: Privilege is invisible to those who have it: Right on (see *EF!J* February–March 2001)! Revolution begins within. I'm glad I read this article first.

Then I read the story about the Long Island actions.

I am familiar with the Judi Bari story, the concept of agent-provocateur, COINTELPRO, etc. You guys have been *had*! Ghandi would not be proud.

Everytime I read about violent actions being blamed on a group, I figure it's just establishment propaganda. But here you guys are bragging about setting fires, on your website? Testosterone knows no politics.

To paraphrase the Beatles: "If you go carrying pictures of Ted Kaczynski, you ain't gonna make it with anyone anyhow."

Oh, you checked to make sure no one would be killed or injured? Violence is violence, and gives the authorities an excuse to break down your door. Then it's no longer a matter of "thought-police" targeting you because of your different ideals.

To anyone who promotes violence: Go liberate yourself.

—Pat Baker

Dear SFB,

I read your lead story regarding the fondling of a young woman during a meeting with great interest (see *EF!J* February–March 2001). I thought perhaps I could offer the following after reading an attempt to do the job was more important than taking proper care of the offense.

Bad conduct is clearly bad conduct. Not everything is perfect and skirting around real issues only adds to problems. It's nice to be dedicated and male-dominated situations require even higher levels of gentlemanly conduct toward women or other men.

Perhaps a code of conduct should be stressed after which a violation renders a dismissal... if not legal action by those offended and those who begin to feel they cannot trust others, who think because they have a lot to offer a purpose... they have privileges.

In short, dump the offending clown, press charges if necessary and get on with the serious work.

—Wm. Gerardino

...KEPT LESS THAN 300 WORDS

You Can't See the Forest...

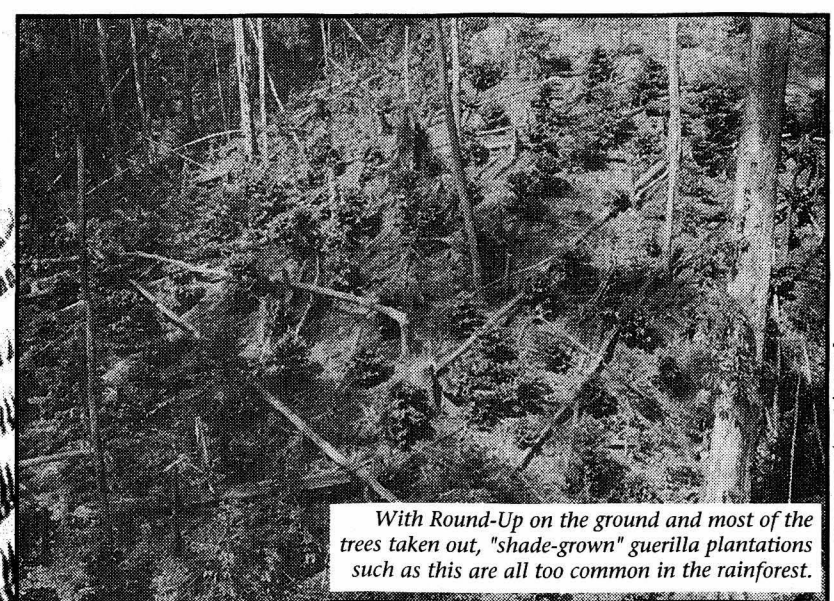
BY JENNIFER CHESWORTH

About this time of year, when the coffee harvest has ended, the burning season is over and the rains have begun in Honduras, people are putting away their guns and counting their losses. This was a bad year, and not because of drought, fire or too much rain. It was bad because of a bumper crop: so much coffee that farmers could hardly give it away. Ordinarily, guns come out during the harvest because coffee—called *oro verde*, or green gold, in its exportable form—is serious money. But this year, coffee farmers in Honduras and across Central America are more likely facing serious debt.

It's hard to say which is worse for the rainforest: a good coffee year or a bad one. For many small farmers, money from their coffee is the only income they will receive all year. Low prices mean they'd better get out there and plant more if they want to break even in the future. But when the price of coffee is high, people also rush to plant more, thinking that prices may continue to rise. Too often they plant it deep in the virgin rainforest, where no one will notice. That's another reason coffee and guns go together: stumbling across coffee in the jungle is like finding a marijuana plot in the middle of nowhere. It's best to just walk away as quickly as possible.

Even the authorities can do little to stop the encroachment of coffee into rainforest lands. Francisco Urbina, a forest ranger for the Sierra de Agalta National Park in Olancho, Honduras, gets death threats when he reports the guerrilla plantations he finds routinely. "The Sierra de Agalta is a Park on paper," he says. "In reality, there are no laws here."

But for small farmers struggling to survive, what recourse is there? Coffee is the lifeblood of the economy in Latin America. It is second only to petroleum products in global trade, with more than half being grown by small farmers. In Honduras, the government has promoted coffee as a promise of wealth for rich and poor farmers alike. It has been planted for decades so that now, Honduras has more hectares in coffee than any other Central American nation.



With Round-Up on the ground and most of the trees taken out, "shade-grown" guerilla plantations such as this are all too common in the rainforest.

photo by Jennifer Chesworth

Unfortunately, this has meant the rapid conversion of rainforest lands in the higher elevations where coffee grows best, as well as the lowlands where it should never have been planted at all. Ironically, Honduran coffee is also considered inferior, and is discounted on the international market. It's not that gourmet coffee can't be found in Honduras—it can. The problem is that quantity, not quality, drives the Honduran coffee industry.

In Honduras, as elsewhere, big plantation owners dominate the export markets. They own the best land, and frankly, they can afford the chemicals that go into high-yield, technified production systems which have made coffee the second most chemically treated crop in the world (next to cotton). When small farmers bring their coffee to market, intermediaries—called "coyotes"—buy it up (often by force) and sell it for a profit in a system of "trickle-down economics"

which never hits the ground. Selling to a coyote is better than nothing. If the only land available is high up in the mountains, in what is supposed to be a protected area, who can blame the families who squat there, living hand-to-mouth on subsistence crops and an acre or two of coffee?

That's why Urbina and others working to protect the Sierra de Agalta think organic certification may be the answer for locals trying to make a living in the areas surrounding the national park. They're going to plant coffee there; that's a fact. Making sure it's sustainable—ecologically and economically—is the only hope for local people and the forestlands upon which they depend.

Organic certification isn't perfect, but it's evolved for nearly 30 years into the best "watch dog" system we have. Although several attempts have been made in recent years to develop

...for the Beans

labeling for "responsible coffee"—including "Fair Trade" and "Eco-OK certification"—only organic certification holds farmers and industry professionals accountable for a full range of production and management methods that create a truly sustainable product. What is "fair" about using chemicals that end up in local watersheds? Is that really "okay?" Consumers have heard that "shade-grown" coffee is somehow protecting biodiversity, but if DDT, malathion, paraquat and other chemicals are in the mix, it's more accurately protecting Monsanto stockholders.

"If you compromise then you are continually damaging the ecosystem," says Stanley Kuehn, director of the Cooperative League of the United States, based in El Salvador. "The question we need to ask is, why would anybody want to use products that are damaging to our bodies, the environment and most importantly, to future generations?"

The fair trade agency TransFair USA has at least tried to offer its services free of charge to farmers. But proponents of fair trade have done little to bring the issues forward into the mainstream. A recent campaign to bring "responsible coffee" to the marketplace targeted Starbucks as *the* bad guy, while the real corporate coffee giants—Proctor and Gamble (Folgers); Kraft/Phillip Morris (Maxwell House); Nestle (Hills Brothers); and Sara Lee in Europe, went quietly about their business of exploiting the world's farmers and the environment. It's not that Starbucks wears a halo. It's that these other, much larger companies are just too big to ignore. Have any of them ever even tried to be socially responsible?

Because organic certification requires farmers, processors and distributors to keep careful documentation of all transactions—called "the Audit Trail"—it has what amounts to built-in fair trade mechanisms in the certification process. Granted, large plantations as well as small farmer cooperatives can be certified organic, while only the cooperatives can be registered fair trade. But whether it comes from an estate or a collective, no one is going to buy coffee if it doesn't taste good. Yet fair trade registration lacks standards for quality.

"Without years of work in developing quality standards for certified organic coffee there would be no fair trade coffee in North America," says Garth Smith, president of Organic Products Trading Company in Vancouver, Washington, and one of the few US coffee brokers who is registered as a fair trade distributor. "We believe that by promoting and supporting organic agriculture we are also addressing the financial and social needs of the people."

Dean Cycon, owner of another all-organic company, Dean's Beans in Massachusetts, believes that organic certification keeps the industry honest. "In a business community that often uses environmental or social language as a sales tool or to give an impression of greater commitment than exists," he says, "we have tried to structure our company in a way that reflects our values and supports our commitments."

Why not just quit drinking coffee altogether and wash our hands of the matter? There's plenty of evidence telling us that too much coffee is bad for one's health, and certainly it's bad for the rainforest. But with millions of farmers putting their hopes and hard work into coffee, a few of us kicking the habit is not going to save the rainforest.

"What needs to happen is to get people to stop drinking bad coffee," says Mark Inman, president and co-founder of the Organic Coffee Association. "True specialty coffee is grown in a biodiverse setting. It produces a full, rich cup of coffee that does not beg the drinker to have a whole pot."

So buy the best, and make it organic. For better or worse, coffee is here to stay. As Inman points out, "Attempting to get people to stop drinking coffee, a beverage that is as old as wine, would be like attempting to get people to stop eating bread."

photo by Jennifer Chesworth

An agent for the Protected Areas Division of the Honduran Forestry Department, Francisco Urbina, surveys a farmer's work, "pruning back the shade," on a coffee plot in the buffer zone.

Art of the Wink... continued

continued from page 23

For people in our community who cooperate with law enforcement or industry, a try at showing them why this will absolutely get us nowhere can be made, and then a no-nonsense policy of disengagement, critique and revenge if needed. Where things are now, people snitch and we often look the other way.

—Autonomous self-organization so we can actually get things done, learn skills and rotate roles; a decentralized structure that strategizes seriously and at least partially achieves goals.

art by Eric Drooker

—Encoded and esoteric communication systems that allow communities (especially dissimilar ones) to swap information, form alliances (not the lowest common denominator kind) and act together when possible.

—A finely-honed and subtle, yet unmistakable artful wink that can be seen from miles away, across border and privilege lines, over ridgetops and into the cities, a wink that makes a wish when an eyelash falls.

—One dam, one genetic experiment, a condo, a few rapists: take out your to-do list one by one.

—A general clandestine consciousness: If people are dressing up, shaving or wearing make-up, this may not mean they have sold out from the current crusty fashion trend. These people are probably up to no good, and you should be too! Or at least help them be up to it!

—Actions that target assorted issues. Relevance to all kinds of struggle is crucial.

—Everyone around you could be ELF, could be working in a mill undercover organizing a shutdown or could be GE crop pulling. If you think nothing's happening and everyone's sitting on their derriéres, it will be so, especially when you think that because you are! People all the time can and do commit revolutionary acts! Don't think small.

—Honor the "all tools in the toolbox" theory for real. No more petty competition, or else the first trusting step toward a general conspiracy of heart, mind and action won't be made in good faith!

Frontlines

Native Activist Smashes Columbus

Wielding a sledgehammer, Native American justice activist James Cosner smashed a life-size statue of Christopher Columbus in front of dozens of witnesses at City Hall in San Jose, California, on March 8. As the seven types of marble chips flew from the blows, Cosner shouted "Genocide!," "This man rode our backs!" and "This man murdered us!"

The presence of the statue prominently placed in City Hall in San Jose has been reviled by Native Americans as a sick reminder of the ruthless slaughter and conquest of indigenous peoples in the New World.

Having smuggled the sledgehammer into the building, Cosner struck the marble statue breaking off the arm and both legs and cracking pits into the face. He cracked off the top of the scroll held by Columbus, so that the torso only remained standing by the flowing waves of the marble cape, which was still connected to the pedestal. A passerby approached Cosner and tried to talk him into stopping. As he tried to calm Cosner, a plainclothes officer arrived and tried to persuade Cosner to stop. But it was only when three uniformed officers came through the front door with their guns drawn that Cosner ceased.

Cosner has been active in protests against the injustice committed against the homeless in Santa Cruz under the Sleeping Ban, in the struggle to free Mumia Abu-Jamal and against the bombing in Yugoslavia.

He was booked into the Santa Clara County Jail on suspicion of vandalism, making terrorist threats and destruction of a civic monument.

Sea Shepherd Vessel Captures Poachers in the Galapagos

On the night of March 11, Sea Shepherd Conservation Society (SSCS) and the Galapagos National Park Service intercepted three more Ecuadorian vessels fishing within the protected area of the Galapagos Islands, a World Heritage Site. Sunday's capture marks the second time in three days that poachers were caught red-handed—and that the government has wavered in deciding whether to press charges. Fishing within the 40-mile area is an infraction of a contract agreed on by the Ecuadorian government, the Galapagos National

—Read *Vida* by Marge Piercy. Check out *Shoot the Women First* by Eileen MacDonald. Then: what the hell are you doing reading?! Go *do* something!

—Get a vasectomy. This will help you with the other subversive somethings you should do, and invariably some folks will have kids that need your conspiratorial care and love.

—People to go for it and really knock this paradigm dizzy with angry, loving, smart efforts are much needed.

—Kindergarten 101: get along, work together and keep your hands to yourself unless invited to do otherwise.

—Live like revolution could actually possibly happen in our lifetimes.

What else? You figure it out, and tell me when we find each other, when we realize we were here together all along without really seeing ourselves. These are not new ideas, just those that need to be expressed at this juncture of EF! and the radical environmental movement.

Without Asking Permission

"It seems to me that it is now especially important to do what is right quietly and persistently, not only without asking permission from government, but consciously avoiding its participation."

—Leo Tolstoy, *Letter to the Liberals*

No one's really calling the shots except the cop in the head. Beyond a reactive security culture of non-cooperation, we need the proactive resistance of mischievous hoodwinking and a cunning conspiracy ethic.

Why should one care about surreptitious revolution?

Here is a quote from escaped slave and abolitionist Frederick Douglas, 1857:

"Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both."

The points made in this article are, in some rudimentary form, manifesting in our movement already. Now the key is to make it all work, breathe together and spread the wink like wildfire. Because in actuality, conspiracy is the imperative when it comes to really having security and solidarity, not to mention actually winning.

Kill the cop in your head.

Park Service and the SSCS to try to preserve this fragile ecosystem. The vessels are being detained on the island of San Cristobal until the Ecuadorian Navy decides whether or not to prosecute.

On March 12, the *Sirenian* intercepted an incriminating message sent by the fishing boat *Dilsum*. Upon boarding the *Dilsum*, Sea Shepherd's crew found 300 sharks that had just been caught inside the 40 mile protected area. While the inspection of the *Dilsum* was taking place, a second boat, the *Gaviota*, was spotted trying to flee the area. Only after Sea Shepherd fired a warning shot and rammed into the *Gaviota* did it surrender.

But it is the third vessel, the *San Antonia* (captured by the Galapagos National Park Service) that has conservationists most worried. Among the *San Antonia's* crew members was one Sergeant Calderon, a member of the Ecuadorian Navy. "It certainly looks to us like the Ecuadorian Navy is bought and paid for by the fishing industry," said Captain Paul Watson.

Greenpeace Occupies Oil Rig

Twenty-one Greenpeace activists took part in a mass occupation on April 1 to stop an oil exploration rig as it was leaving Scotland's Cromarty Firth.

Four Greenpeace climbers set up camp high on one of the rig's legs and two more abseiled down one of the rig's legs to paint "Oil Kills" in giant letters. A further 10 people occupied various parts of the operations deck, including the drill stack and heli-deck. Five one-person sailing dinghies crisscrossed the Cromarty Firth as the ship *MV Greenpeace* stood by.

The Drillstar rig, on contract to the US oil giant JET, had upped most of its anchors and was on its way to drill in the central North Sea but was held up for 30 hours during the occupation. Five days later volunteers occupied an operating oil rig in the North Sea, 55 nautical miles off the Northeast coast of Scotland. Several days later, police boarded the *MV Greenpeace* and arrested six people.

Air pollution from using oil is the main cause of global warming. Greenpeace calculates that we can only afford to burn one quarter of known oil, coal and gas reserves before global warming results in catastrophic changes to the climate. This climate change has already brought flood, misery and freak storms to Europe and threatens the lives of millions worldwide.

Rod Coronado Silenced

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A letter was issued to Coronado warning, "You spoke on a panel on police brutality and argued against pacifism. You have specifically been instructed not to affiliate yourself with animal rights activist groups and to conduct yourself in a peaceful manner... Consider this a written warning, you cannot participate in these types of activities." A review of Coronado's writings published after his release from prison led federal authorities to specifically prohibit his employment, community service and association with Earth First!, and the *Journal*.

Coronado's lawyers concluded that such restrictions on an individual's political activities are perfectly legal for someone on supervised release. A violation of such conditions would result not only in his re-imprisonment, but also the possibility of an additional 30 months of supervised release.

Such actions against convicted Earth and animal defenders will become more common as the US government attempts to discourage ELF and ALF activities, and are a sign of their intent to fracture the radical environmental movement. The FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Forces assembled throughout the nation are the modern incarnation of the Counter Intelligence Program of the 1960s and '70s. As resistance to environmental destruction increases, it will be the government's sole purpose to prevent activists like Coronado from helping our movement strengthen and grow.

The ELF and ALF are considered by the US Department of Justice to be the nation's most active domestic terrorism organizations. Coronado, like Craig Rosebraugh, was one of our movement's spokespeople insuring that the public be aware that it's not the ELF or ALF who are this country's most dangerous terrorists, but the politically powerful corporations and industries that operate with legal impunity.

Silencing Coronado will not stop the resistance to ecological destruction. It only means we are making a difference to the profits of corporate terrorists and more than ever it is the job of Earth First! to support our movement and its voice, the *Earth First! Journal*.

Non à la FTAA/ZLEA

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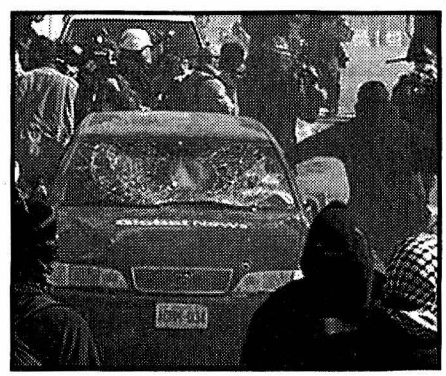
hesitation thousands of people surge forward shaking and climbing atop the fence, and the drumming, chanting, singing, whoops and cries grew to a wild cacophonic crescendo. As we climbed and shook the fence, it began to rock and sway. More and more hands reached forward to pull, whoops and shouts rising high as first one long section of the "impenetrable" fence began to fall—then another and another, like dominoes.

As I leaped, pulling, hanging from the top of a section of soon-falling fence, I remembered one of the dreams I had which helped my decision to travel so far here. I remembered the Bengal tiger spirit that merged with me in a dream, felt its claw talons as I clung to the fence helping along with others to bring it down. In a wildly jubilant surge, people ran about as cops tried pushing us back through the long gaping hole in their fence. The cops begin firing tear gas and



In QC, demonstrators calmly discuss globalization with a "Global News" camera crew. As the saying goes, if you don't do media, you get done by the media.

plastic bullets, both at those inside, but more so at those still flooding towards the opened fence, in an attempt to prevent even more from entering their insecurity perimeter. People respond by throwing the gas canisters back at the cops.

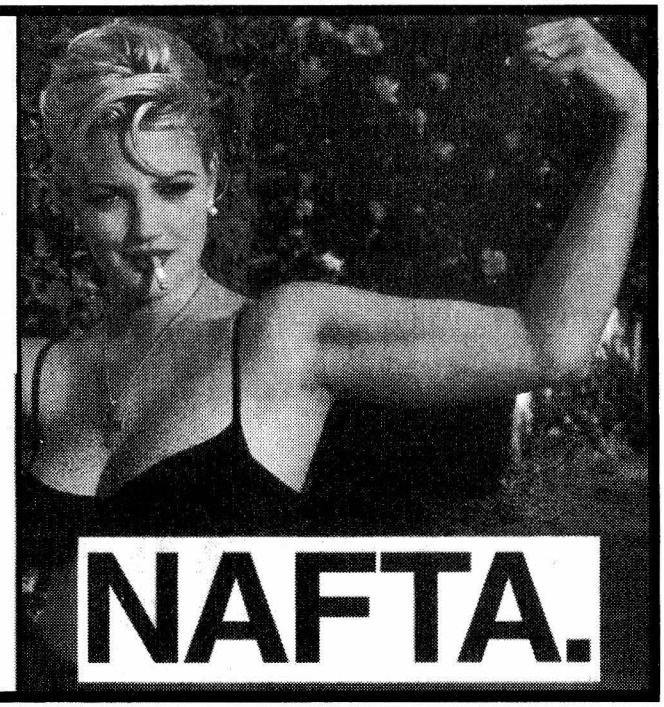
The battle around the breached fence continues until the gas becomes so thick that people can no longer remain, as the armored cop battalion moves in to chase us out. Yet through the gaseous haze, one can see activists moving a huge catapult inside the perimeter, which had been disguised as a fuzzy bear in the march. Later, an activist is ambushed by undercover cops and arrested, among his charges is "possession of a catapult." A large battalion of cops begins to move in on us from the outside as well, firing gas and plastic bullets—forcing people out of the "People's Summit" area. From this point the struggle spills into the streets and spreads all over old Quebec City surrounding the perimeter fence, as people try to bring it down again in many places. Fires erupt on the fence itself, as some of its many placards and decorations are set afire.

Gas and pepper spray fills the air, as do explosions, while helicopters whirl overhead as day turns into night. There are serious injuries and casualties on our side. Gas canisters that hit people in the face, wounds and bruises from the large (3.5" X 1.5") plastic bullets, head and trauma wounds from billy clubs. More and

NAFTA has brought us all peace and prosperity.

Do yourself a favor and support the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

before.



more activists being arrested both within and outside the perimeter by cop battalions and roving swat-style squads in vans, as well as the numerous undercover cops and snitches in the streets. Pitched battles continue through the dark night of resistance.

The next day, a large march of union, mainstream and various activist groups leaves from a park and wanders the streets past the fenced perimeter towards a parking lot far from the FTAA meeting place, and the struggles to bring down the wall. Later, many of the marchers rejoin the skirmishes expanding throughout the area. By nightfall, the tear gas in the streets has become very thick. Still, like the previous day, the wind is in our favor—most often blowing the gas clouds back at the police lines that fired them—it's as if nature too is using Aikido on the Vaderite cops.

A woman on stilts dressed as the Statue of Liberty stilt dancing in front of the wall was shot repeatedly by the police water cannon, as were many others. People helped her as the water cannons forced her down. Others responded with everything from dancing in the water cannon's "rain" to hurling concrete chunks from the street at the cop battalions and the water cannon truck. A group of us move along the fence, in view of one of the delegate hotels. The police fiercely fire many rounds of gas at us. This gas is a mix of pepper and tear gas burning the skin, throat and eyes intensely. Activists manage to throw some of them back at the cops, but most cannot stand to get near the canisters that expel the toxic gas from both sides in rushing, enveloping clouds. As we get repeatedly gassed, we find ourselves coughing, convulsing, and feeling as if on fire. Yet people remain in the streets—when one area gets too covered in cops, we rove to the next, people ripping down the fence wherever opportunity arises. Masked of necessity due to the gas, people toss back the fuming canisters, hurl rocks, bottles, sticks, etc. to slow the cops repeated attacks. The spirit is high, often humorous, often angry as people cough, run, laugh and struggle for the downing of the wall. Day gives way to night. Large fires of trash and reclaimed corporate debris erupt at various random places throughout the night, and pixies prowl about wielding bolt cutters upon the loathed fence.

On the night of April 21, many street parties appeared around the outside of the wall. People wandered between the celebratory bonfires with its music and dancing on one hand and the fierce, passionate battles to tear down the wall. All in all, it has been and still remains a wild struggle for the future of us all. People have responded in self-defense to the police attacks by throwing rocks and cobbles torn from the streets, hurling sticks and signs, even tossing snow balls from the melting snow clumps which yet remain. I write this from within the Indymedia center with tear and pepper gas wafting outside, fires burning in the streets and plastic bullets whizzing by. We hear that a couple of Molotovs have flown toward the thugs defending the corporate elite. Karma coming home toward those who would sell their integrity to stand as police between the defenders of this Earth and the FTAA corporate globalizers who would destroy all that's wild.

The black blocs were for the most part empowering and daring. They repeatedly faced down the armored cops' onslaughts. One group pushed a wheeled dumpster far uphill too the fence, utilizing it to help bring the fence down. As the cop battalions moved in to plug the breach, hundred of people filled the street to hold it. Another standoff ensued, with people peacefully sitting down in the street as the cops eventually opened fire on them with gas and plastic bullets, forcing them to fall back.

By the morning of April 22, over four hundred people are in jail. The fallen fences have been welded shut, with the ever-present Robocops behind them watching and waiting for the next fall of their wall. Outside the jail a vigil has begun, and a march is forming as well. Cops are said to be arresting anyone with a gas mask, as well as making random arrests. QC is well on its way to becoming the corporate police state of the future. Yet thousands of determined, gas-weary, and jubilant still freely roam the streets, living the chant of "Whose streets? *Our* Streets!"

Border Militarization

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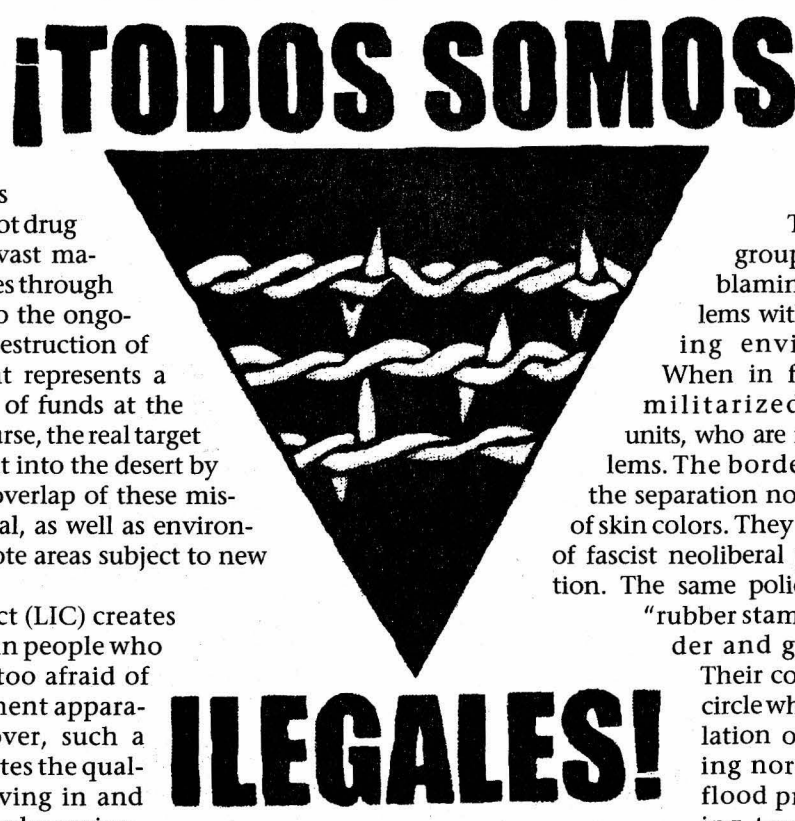
The militarization of the border has always been justified by the "war on drugs," and from the beginning it has bled over into immigration enforcement. Since the early '80s, interdiction techniques ostensibly deployed to detect drug smuggling have been used to track and detain immigrants as well. This shows little respect for human and civil rights, as the vast majority of immigrants crossing the border are not drug traffickers. In fact, the vast majority of drug traffic passes through "legal" ports of entry, so the ongoing militarization and destruction of the border environment represents a complete misallocation of funds at the very least—unless, of course, the real target is immigrants, forced out into the desert by the Border Patrol. The overlap of these missions has profound social, as well as environmental, impacts in remote areas subject to new immigrant flows.



Low Intensity Conflict (LIC) creates a climate of fear, wherein people who are subjected to it are too afraid of the oppressive government apparatus to resist it. Moreover, such a climate of fear deteriorates the quality of life for people living in and moving through the border region. This climate of fear has led the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation to expel JTF-6, due to ongoing harassment, physical and psychological abuse. Such abuse is inherently a part of LIC strategy, part and parcel of the war mentality. Everyone who crosses or helps someone else cross is seen as the enemy and treated accordingly. Through the use of this strategy, border residents are made to fear those who cross (due to the war propaganda of dehumanizing and misleading rhetoric), as well as to fear the ever-increasing military occupying forces. LIC has consistently resulted in an increase in violence against women, including physical and sexual assaults and verbal abuse, as its foot soldiers engage in a campaign of terror with little accountability. An anything-goes, warlike atmosphere is imposed along the border.

Along with low intensity war along the border, it is the government's policy to develop and share intelligence among various agencies, even if it overlaps into immigration enforcement. The complete lack of accountability and the sensitivity of low profile, rotating military units also contributes to border abuses. LIC has consistently employed the tactic of creating armed paramilitary groups that work in collaboration with government security forces to further the propagation of fear. These groups operate with impunity as they engage in human rights abuses on behalf of security forces, which are afforded a measure of deniability for the worst transgressions of their policy. We are already seeing this along our border, with racist vigilante groups routinely violating people's rights.

These same racist vigilante groups scapegoat immigrants, blaming them for the many problems within our borders, including environmental degradation. When in fact, it is they and the militarized border enforcement units, who are responsible for these problems. The border guards exist to enforce the separation not only of nations, but also of skin colors. They exist to clean up the fallout of fascist neoliberal policies of Earth exploitation. The same policies give corporations the "rubber stamp" to continue the plunder and genocide of Latin America. Their corporate agenda comes full circle when they create a large population of displaced people heading north, with which they can flood prisons and fuel the growing trend of immigrant prison privatization. The vicious corporate cycle becomes complete, leaving in its wake, a devastated environment and a broken people.

For more info, visit www.resistmilitarization.org.

photo by Karm Middleman

Demonstration to stop border violence in Nogales, Sonora.

Shouldering EF!'s Baggage...

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In '87, Foreman authored an article in the *Earth First! Journal* (by pseudonym) that posited that AIDS is a good thing for the planet. As a biocentric misanthrope myself, I see a distinct possibility in an effective human plague of the future providing huge relief to the rest of the natural world. But Foreman's comment is politically ignorant, on top of the insult of his privilege in saying it. Generally, people hit hardest by AIDS are those who don't live in Foreman's American land of privilege, while those doing the largest share of polluting and ravaging do.

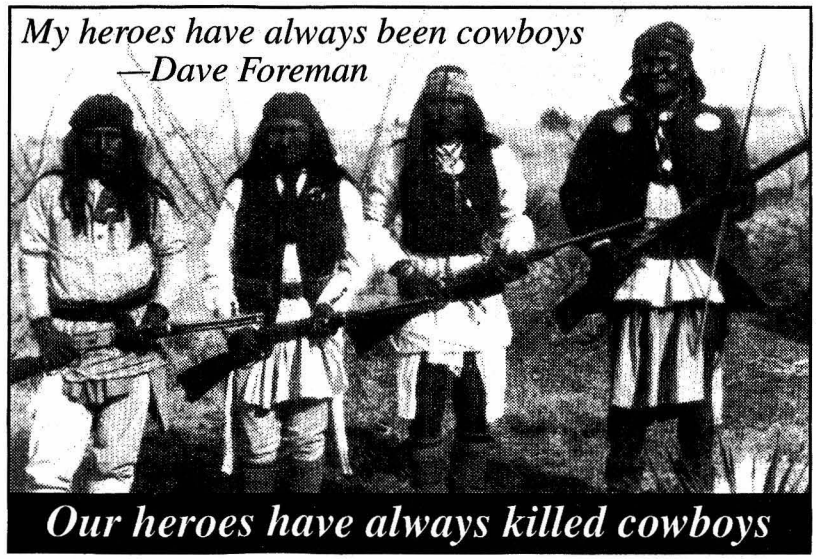
These racist sentiments did not go completely unchallenged within EF!. Anarchists ridiculed Foreman's *Journal* content and created the insurrectionary 'zine *Live Wild or Die*. The Biotic Baking Brigade first showed its face in an *EF! Journal* "Dear Shit for Brains" letter declaring that Abbey deserved a "frijoles" pie for his racism. Not long after, Foreman left Earth First!, taking a substantial amount (though not nearly all) of his "old-guard" views with him.

It should be acknowledged that Foreman, Abbey and a cadre of direct action activists challenged and radicalized the early '80s American environmental movement. Timely emergence of Earth First! kept biocentrism's torch aflame, and EF! continues to occupy a place on the frontlines more than 20 years later.

As EF! has evolved, our biocentrism has been increasingly spiced with a social context that has enabled us to see our connection to the Zapatistas, for example, and helped us work together with other groups, such as longshoremen and steelworkers. EF! today is slowly but increasingly diverse, and dialoguing about root causes of the domination of land and liberty. Airing our dirty laundry and coming clean on who we are is necessary for getting through the growing pains of stagnation and on to meaningful growth.

As in the past, some Earth First!ers today are worried about people focusing on more than just wilderness. These folks can perhaps be described as tunnel-vision biocentrists. How can a forest be truly protected when cultural genocide is alive and well against indigenous people who once inhabited it?

This metaphor may be easier to see: A cancer cannot be kept out of the liver (the land) while it rages unopposed in the breasts (the people). It's unrealistic to think otherwise, and why not get rid of all bigotry all at once anyway? Thus, while keeping biocentrism as an incredibly necessary and heartfelt focus, EF! can't let industrialism, capitalism, racism, patriarchy or privilege go unchecked. That is, not if we really mean it when we say, "No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth."



EF!'s "deep" ecology has not been deep enough, as it has not yet halted the planet's destruction. Only when all of civilization's diabolical tendencies are dismantled will we be able to rest with the knowledge that our victories won't be rewritten or treaties broken as soon as we turn our backs. We know the pain of a forest saved, just to turn around and find it back on the chopping block through a salvage rider or other piece of sneaky legislation.

Rather than the previous tunnel vision, what is emerging in EF!, Earth Liberation Front and in environmentalism in general is a consciousness of radical biocentrism: Social justice is being incorporated into our ecological passions, connections are being made and foundations questioned. Plants and animals know no borders, neither shall the human biocentrist!

Radical biocentrism must not be mistaken as knee-jerk political correctness. That is the claim Foreman fell back on, and it is still misused today. Understanding that everything is connected, and directly acting as such, should never be compared to phony, polite PC-ism.

We in the states have a responsibility to those in other countries. Things are kicking off in places of less opulence, where struggle is an everyday aspect of survival, and that is what struggle must mean to us as well. If we scrape away the numbing complacent scum of privilege from our eyes, we will see clearly that peace here means war there. A preserved tract of wilderness here is a clearcut elsewhere. We can't have a "not-in-my-backyard" approach. That is just a shell game of devastation displacement.

Instead of the typical, dominating types, let us learn from Commandanta Ramona, Nat Turner, Vandana Shiva, *Las Mujeres Libres*, Peg Millet. Beyond that, let us remember that famous personalities, even from less-represented sectors, are not the solution. It's about all of us, and the on-the-ground, everydayness of things.

Let us unite across nations' borders to globalize resistance. By combining perspectives and efforts, we cannot help but become stronger. EF!ers need to incorporate all struggles into their worldview. If we can sort through the movement's baggage and come out on the other side, strong and ready to work with our fellow resisters, then our actions, beliefs and solidarity will know no borders. This is the way to win, whether you're a misanthrope or not, so suck it up, show some respect and maybe we'll have a revolution!

A House on Fire continued...

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ecology and linguistics, and between the extinction of species and cultures. In keeping with the tenets of structuralism, Levi-Strauss posited that words, signs, symbols and myths are not autonomous entities. Their meanings can only be ascertained by looking at their relationship with other words and myths. Despite the impression one might get from a dictionary, meaning is determined by the structure, or total inter-relationship, of words within a language. Strictly speaking, meaning is the manner in which a system of words differ from and relate to each other.

Whereas most structuralists of the mid-20th century tend to see the differential nature of language as causing it to be self-referential and hence outside of and constitutive of nature, Levi-Strauss realized that the then-developing science of ecology was discovering that nature itself is fundamentally differential. Like words and symbols, species do not exist autonomously. Each has evolved to be what it is, in relation to a host of other species, processes and environments. Each fills a niche occupied by no other species. Strictly speaking, diversity is not so much a characteristic of ecosystems and species, it is the condition of their possibility of existence. In simpler terms, the diversity of life structures life.

If there is an ecology of language, it is because language and nature are of a single system of diversity. This unity is most apparent in the role of metaphor in human communication and understanding of the world. Metaphor is the principle means by which we communicate, and biological diversity is the foundation of an enormous portion of our metaphors. These metaphors are not simply poetic frills, they are indispensable to language and human thought. In his famous study of totemism, Levi-Strauss concluded that the diversity of totemic species found in indigenous cultures around the world are not simply cultural constructs: They are essential modes of thought. The language and thought of indigenous cultures is borne upon the living diversity with which they evolved. Totemic animals (less often plants or other natural objects) have long been the dominant metaphors for self-understanding. These metaphors are not "created" by cultures out of thin air, they arise out of a culture's evolving relationship with the species in its larger community. They will necessarily vary as do the bioregions in which cultures develop.

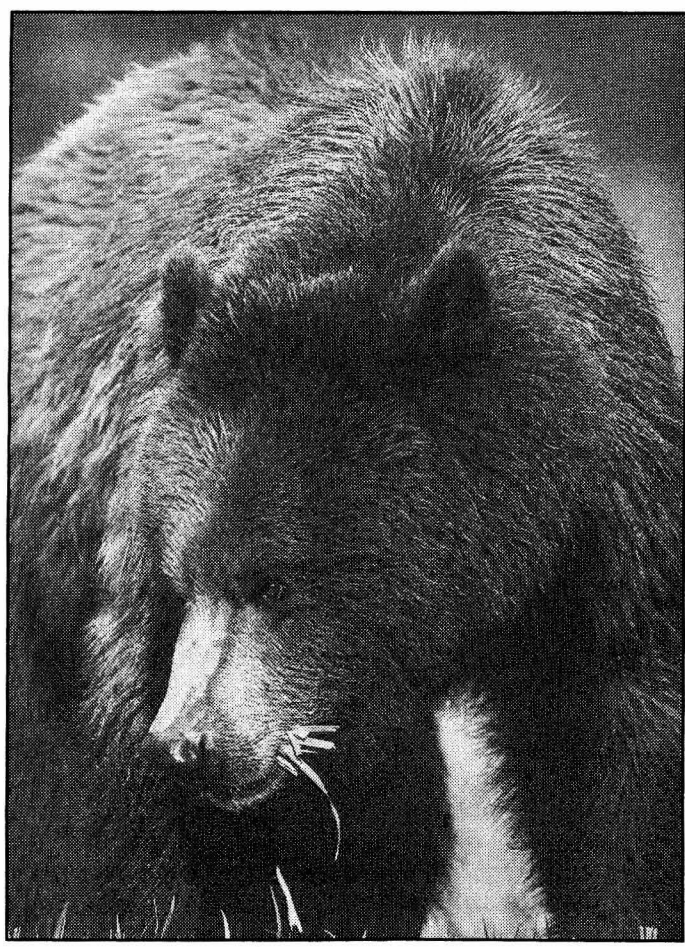


photo by Robin Silver

High degrees of species richness and species endemism may encourage high degrees of language richness by providing a greater diversity of metaphor possibilities. The diversity of languages serves to situate indigenous cultures in relationship to other species and places, but also in relationship to other cultures. All cultures have a tendency to totalize (i.e. to view their metaphors, concepts, beliefs and languages as all inclusive of reality). Indigenous people, however, lived in a highly diverse network of other cultures and their languages, other species and their cultures. They were constantly reminded of the limits of their cultural worlds. Natural metaphors (especially species metaphors) within language and diversity between languages are effective reminders that the domain we inhabit is limited, and our right to exploit does not extend endlessly. As individual languages become increasingly homogenized, as the diversity between languages within a bioregion decrease and as the diversity of living beings decrease, we lose the boundaries that preserve community stability.

Just as "first world" societies replace diverse plant communities with monoculture crops, they are replacing a tremendous and ancient linguistic diversity with vast monolanguages. There are approximately 6,500 languages on Earth today. About 50 percent of all humans, however, speak and think in one of 10 globally dominant languages. That means 0.2 percent of all existing languages hold sway over 50 percent of all humans and likely upwards of 85 percent of the land surface of the globe. Not surprisingly, these are the languages of the cultures primarily responsible for the global extinction crisis and the eradication/marginalizing of indigenous cultures. These cultures no longer recognize a limit to their beliefs or exploitation rights because they no longer genuinely encounter and become situated by a diversity of other languages, ideas, cultures and species.

The planetary extinction crisis is intimately tied to the global homogenizing of language and culture. If we allow diversity to decline within human cultures and between cultures, we throw away the necessary mental tools to reverse the decline in biological diversity.

Structurelessness cont...

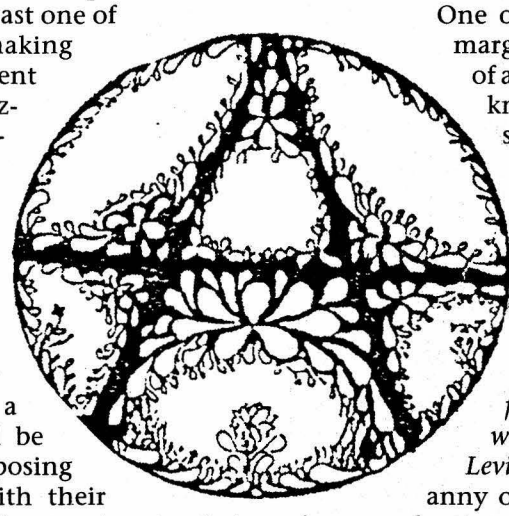
continued from page 35

middle class that often runs in our *Journal*, a basic fact is that the vast majority of EF!ers work for a living, and we should recognize this and take pride in it. It is only natural that ordinary people would start to take us seriously at some point. Unfortunately, we have so far failed to step up to many of the incredible opportunities we have recently been presented with.

In places where we do act on these opportunities, as we have done with regards to the United Steelworkers of America, it becomes incumbent upon us to have enough internal discipline and cohesion to not be manipulated by the other organizations involved, or factions within them. If we sit down to write a set of bylaws and guiding principles for an alliance with an organization whose members have been operating in and around such codes for decades, and we bring little direct experience of the kind to the table ourselves, we are likely to be used as a political relations tool by the upper echelons of the more experienced organization.

> Those who believe that anarchy is synonymous with disorganization need some introductory reading. There is nothing inherently bad or oppressive about organization. We just tend to fear it... we had negative experiences with hierarchical structure.

So what am I suggesting for EF!? Right now, all I am suggesting is the establishment of some explicit structure and defined responsibility for at least one of our regular national decision-making events. I suggest there be one event per year (be it a conference, a rendezvous, or even... gasp... a convention) to which people come as delegates from their respective bioregional organizations, formal or informal, with the realization that they are not acting as individuals, but are explicitly responsible for delivering positions on matters of consequence, including finances and accountability, for a group of people who cannot all be there, making, supporting or opposing proposals for national action with their group's position(s) in mind, and returning to their localities to give detailed report to the people who sent them there. The primary loyalty of these delegates/delegations must be to their local organization.



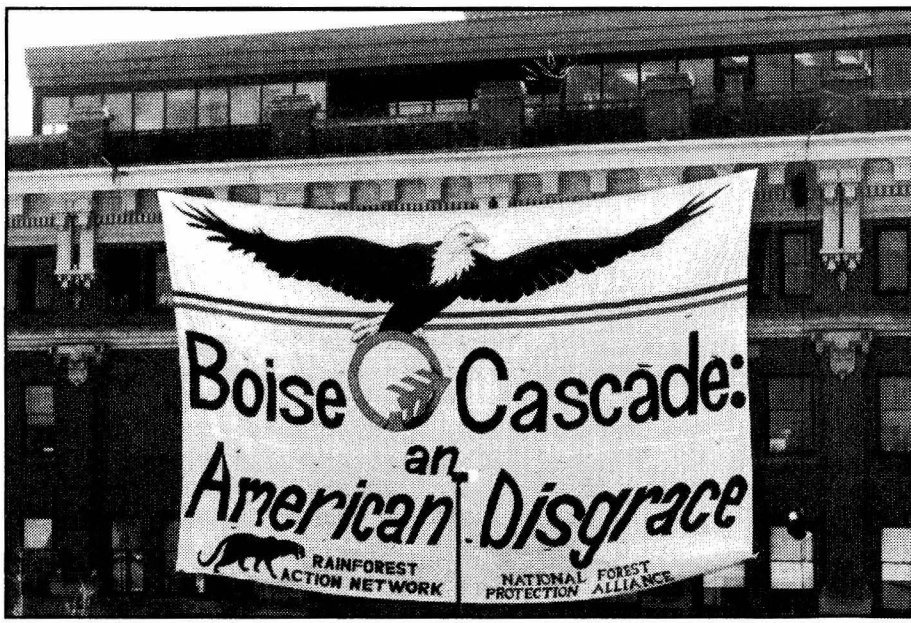
I know that this is setting off numerous anti-authoritarian alarm bells in many EF!ers' heads, as well it should be. I look forward to some vitriolic responses, but remember that vitriol is no substitute for clear thought. Make sure that you actually do read Freeman's essay, and Cathy Levine's weak direct response to it, *The Tyranny of Tyranny,* before you respond to what I have said. I will be able to tell by your response whether you have read it or not.

Some EF!ers will take the extreme position that we must never approximate "organization," that we should strive to be "dis-organizers," and all that sort of rubbish. I find it next to impossible to take that line of thought seriously. Those who believe that anarchy is synonymous with disorganization need to go into an anarchist bookstore and do some introductory reading on the subject. (*Anarchism* by Daniel Guerin is a book that I would personally recommend for starters.) There is nothing inherently bad or oppressive about organization. We just tend to fear it because most of us have had negative experiences with overly hierarchical structures.

Internal discipline, responsibility and coordination will come about through internal EF! organization. They can all be achieved by a confederation of voluntarily associated groups of various natures. No central authority should be necessary, and any national entity or office that may develop need only be for information dispersal and coordination between regions.

One of the few advantages of being a self-marginalizing subculture and scene instead of a movement is that relatively few people know when you drop the ball or screw something up. We no longer have that privilege. Large numbers of people are now willing to take us seriously. We owe it to them, ourselves and our planet to not blow them off.

Editor's note: The Tyranny of Structurelessness *was first printed in 1970, and can be found in that year's* Berkeley Journal of Sociology. *It can be found on the internet at www.anarres.org.au/essayndx.htm. Cathy Levine's directly oppositional essay,* The Tyranny of Tyranny, *first surfaced in* Black Rose *issue number one, was reprinted by the Rising Free Collective and is available from Anarres Books c/o Third World Publications, 151 Stratford Road, Birmingham B11 1RD, England. Both essays were published together in 1984 as a joint publication project between Dark Star Press and Rebel Press called* Untying The Knot: Feminism, Anarchism and Organization. *It is currently printed by Agate Press, 84b Whitechapel High St, London E1, England, and is available through most anarchist and feminist bookstores.*

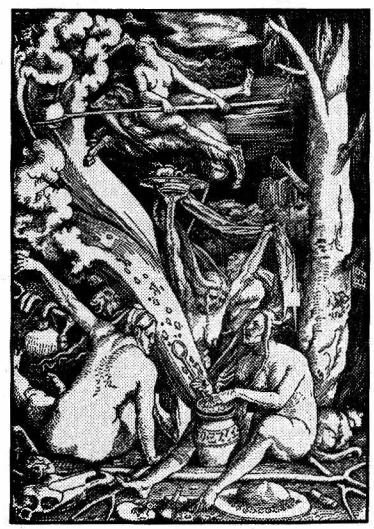


On March 29, forest activists rappelled from a building and deployed a massive 60' x 30' banner directly in front of Boise Cascade's headquarters, delivering a message directly to America's premier old-growth logging giant.

photo courtesy Rainforest Action Network

Anarchists Claim Seattle Earthquake

Seattle, WA (Reuters) — After three nights of continuous violence by the Seattle Police Department during Seattle's Mardi Gras celebrations, something had to be done. A black and green clad circle of anarchist witches calling themselves "Green Fire" decided to strike back. "It's been like this ever since the WTO. Any time people get together, the police break out the riot gear," said an anonymous Green Fire member.



An earthquake was suggested and quickly agreed upon and then the impromptu consensus debate began. First, it was the ethics of magic and non-violence. The view that "we are just the manifestation of the three-fold law" prevailed over those predicting dire returns on the magic. The three-fold law states that anyone who performs a negative action gets it back three-fold.

Then the question became what and how big? Suggestions that "we blow Mt. Rainier while we're at it" were rejected as too violent, as were calls to level Paul Allen's new $500 million stadium. In the end, the anarchists decided to stick with tradition and break all the windows in Seattle.

"To help raise energy," the Green Fire member continued, "We centered the earthquake in the Nisqually area where the Weyerhaeuser Corporation is building a golf course on ancient burial ground sacred to the Nisqually tribe."

"The quake had to be big enough to look good, but deep enough so that people didn't get hurt," our source added. "And, of course, the message being, people had to have their fun." Indeed, fearful that the anti-corporate message would be lost in all the window breaking, the message witches directed parts of the quake specifically at corporate targets. TV viewers around the world have seen the damage done to the Starbucks world headquarters.

Boeing, the leader of the military-industrial complex, was shaken and was denied all electricity. In what is hoped to be divinatory karma, Boeing, without any power left to it, was forced to cease all operations and go home.

Finally, Microsoft's Bill Gates was also a target. The earthquake was timed to go off just as Gates approached a podium to give a speech. When the quake started, he was reportedly jumped and knocked over by his own security people "trying to protect him." The symbolism here is mixed and complex.

The anarchists did not spare the institutions of government. Washington Governor Gary Locke, whose proposed budget cuts funding for low-income services, is now experiencing life as a homeless person himself. The governor's mansion has been closed for safety reasons in the wake of the quake.

Seattle Mayor Paul Schell reacted swiftly to the earthquake. In consultation with Governor Locke, he declared a state of emergency. A 50-square-block area of downtown Seattle has been declared a "No Earthquake Zone" and police have orders to use tear gas, pepper spray and rubber bullets on any earthquake trying to enter the area. The earthquake's closure of the King County Courthouse, however, promises to hinder any attempts at enforcement.

"Seattle has always been an open city, but we will no longer tolerate rogue natural elements coming to our town just to cause trouble," said Mayor Schell.

"Gaia can really kick major corporate butt when She puts her mind to it," was the response from one Green Fire organizer who was hoping for another "shaker" action at the FTAA meeting in Quebec.

Operation Dessert Storm Kicks Off

COMPILED BY AGENT APPLE

World Bank Prez Creamed

The Arctic Baking Brigade pied the President of the World Bank, James D. Wolfensohn, on March 29 in Finland. Wolfensohn was starting his press conference when two soya-cream pies attacked him. They landed on his face. He seemed a bit surprised, but then said: "Mmm. Tastes good but I'm on a diet."

"We managed to cancel the press conference. It's hard to give an impression of a respected economic leader with your face covered in soya-cream," said the Brigade's deputy commander Marzipan, who was honored to throw the first pie in Finnish history. Deputy commander Pomada threw the second pie and scored also, even though she had to throw her pie from a few meters away. Deputy commanders Nonpareils and Carda-mom successfully covered for them.

"Pies are the best way of communicating with these totally undemocratic organizations like the World Bank. So the case is closed as far as the police are concerned. But for us, this is just a beginning," the group said in its press release.

Despite Wolfensohn declining to press charges, the Finnish prime minister's office later filed an official criminal complaint against the two entarteurs.

Wolfensohn expressed his frustration that "these types of non-governmental organizations find it so easy to play their little games, when out in the field people are dying of poverty. This sort of thing really enrages me."

This event marked a special moment in the history of the global pastry uprising, as it completed the Holy Trinity of entartement: the heads of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and World Trade Organization have all been pied.

If the people pie, the leaders will swallow—Wolfensohn creamed!

photo by Finland Indymedia

Swedish Minister Splattered

During the traditional walk through the streets of Stockholm on April 6, two members of the Stockholm Pie Brigade attacked the Finance Minister Bosse Ringholm. The activists managed to throw not one, but two pies in the surprised minister's face.

Stockholm Pie Brigade writes in a press release that the aim of the attack was to "draw attention to the forthcoming protests in Gothenburg against the so-called 'social democracies' and their neoliberal actions both in Europe and globally."

"We wanted to do something fun. It's a symbolic action, it shows that the responsible have a face and a name," one of the two activists commented to *Arbetaren*, (the official paper of SAC, Sweden's revolutionary anarcho-syndicalist union).

According to the group, the attack was part of the international initiative "Operation Dessert Storm." The initiative comes from activists that strongly sympathize with the international pie-throwing network Biotic Baking Brigade.

Those Rascally Swedes

Three EU-friendly Swedish federal politicians were attacked with cream pies on March 6 at the beginning of a debate about Swe-den's EU policies in the university town of Lund. The Syndicalist Youth Federation in Lund has taken responsi-bility for the action, while the politicians have complained loudly about their dry-cleaning bills!

"Someone had to do something to get a debate started. EU is a deeply undemocratic organisation and all of us who are critical to the heart of the project, capitalism, have almost no platform at all in the debate that is only about small changes to the system," said one of the entarteurs.

photo by UK Indymedia

"They just won't accept that absolute corporate rule means prosperity for all!"

Cabinet Pudding for Short

Clare Short, Britain's International Development Secretary, was custard-pied on March 5 in recognition of her disservice to the world's poor.

Just Desserts, or *Dim ond Cwstard* in Welsh, pied her when she visited Bangor in northwest Wales. She was delivering a lecture on globalization at the University of Wales, when three local patisseristas presented her with custard pies in Short-crust pastry, made with fair-trade bananas and local organic ingredients. Short is believed to be the first government minister on Earth to have received a special Cabinet Pudding.

Baked to a new recipe, the pies have been christened the Short-crust Bananas Turnover, to mark both the minister's political volte-face and the madness of her current globalization policies. Short was doubtless pleased to note that after the pie-ing there was a marked Trickle-Down Effect, as her clothes were enriched by the same commodities which had been imported into her face.

Agent Cwstard commented, "Clare Short's bananas policies are flying in the face of ministerial promises to help the world's poor and protect the environment. Our alternative flan of action involves policies which stick while distributing the fruits of the global economy to those who are most deserving." Indeed.

Environmental News of the Weird

Alligators Swamp Suburbs

A record drought has forced hundreds of amorous and thirsty alligators out of the swamps and into the canals and ponds of suburban southeast Florida. So many have fled the swamps that the Seminole tribe—traditional protectors of the Everglades and its wildlife—set up a hotline to find the roaming reptiles.

The service has logged 175 reports of alligators wandering the suburbs.

"Alligators have found themselves in need of water and therefore have left their habitat," the tribe's spokesman, Chuck Malkus, said. "It is now spring and it's the mating season for alligators. Typically they will mate on the waterline."

The students on the hotline call trappers licensed to remove the "nuisance" creatures and release them deep into the Everglades. And they warn callers to not try feeding the strays. "Animals will not know the difference between the food and the hand that is feeding it," Malkus said.

Southeast Florida has five million people and 500 miles of waterways, canals and lakes in dense suburbs covering what was once part of the Everglades.

Human Remains for Sale

Two women have been arrested in Moldova for selling meat, which tests revealed to be human remains. A customer reported the women to police after buying the meat, which they were selling in plastic bags outside a butcher's shop in downtown Chisinau.

The women, whose names were not released, told police that they acquired the meat from a state cancer clinic in Chisinau. Police said they did not want to immediately make an official statement because they did not want to create public panic.

Moldova, a former Soviet Republic, is among the poorest countries in Europe, with an average monthly salary of $30. Many of the 4.5-million inhabitants, especially in rural areas, are paid in crops and other objects.

Troublesome Tumbleweeds

In one way or another, waste products always seem to be giving scientists pause for thought. Two years ago in Britain, for example, pigeons that had visited contaminated buildings at the Sellafield Nuclear Complex were found to be concentrating radioactivity in their droppings on the nearby village of Seascale. Now, another unlikely suspect is at the center of a radiation scare in the US.

In the mid-1990s, staff at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) noticed that stray tumbleweeds had an alarming ability to clear the laboratory's two-meter-high perimeter fence, blow into wastewater ponds, wash up on shore and blow out again. A two-year study has revealed that tumbleweeds are responsible for spreading a total of 66 megabecquerels of radiation over a 32-hectare area. The risk to humans, we are assured, is minimal, but the INEEL have nevertheless taken appropriate action. "They've now made the fence higher and they go out and collect tumbleweeds and bury them," said a spokesperson.

Head Transplant Triggers Frankenstein Fears

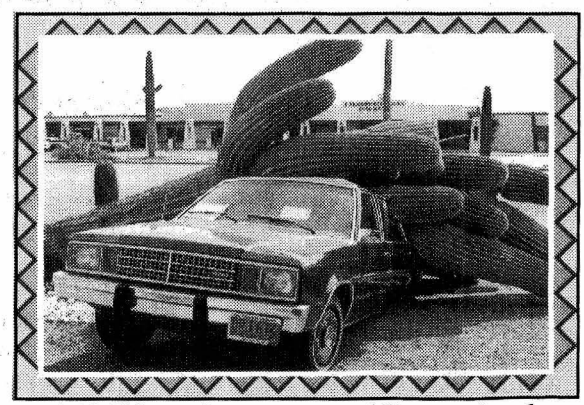
A new brain could be available in the future. A controversial operation to transplant the whole head of a monkey onto a different body has proved a partial success, and the scientist behind it wants to do the same thing to humans.

Professor Robert White, from Cleveland, Ohio, transplanted a whole monkey's head onto another monkey's body. The animal survived for some time after the operation. White raised the possibility that it could be used to treat people paralyzed and unable to use their limbs, and whose bodies, rather than their brains, were diseased.

He said that in the experiment, his team had been able to "transplant the brain as a separate organ into an intact animal and maintain it in a viable, or living situation for many days."

That, he said, meant the monkey was conscious and that it could see, hear, taste and smell because the nerves were left intact in the head.

He admitted that it could appear "grotesque," but said there had been ethical considerations throughout the history of organ transplants.



A 10,000 pound saguaro cactus obliterates a brand new SUV in a solidarity action with the Earth Liberation Front.

It's a Bird, It's a Plane: No, It's a Flying Tree Seedling!

Looking skyward for a solution to the global warming plight, Moshe Alamaro, a researcher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has developed an aerial forestation system—dropping tree seedlings from airplanes as an effective way to plant trees in massive quantities. Alamaro believes that dropping tree seedlings from planes could become an inexpensive way to reintroduce greenery to barren areas. The seedlings would be enclosed in aerodynamically shaped biodegradable canisters, which would reach the ground at nearly 150 mph and plant themselves.

Planting trees in industrialized countries is expensive. Under Alamaro's scheme, power companies from developed countries could sponsor the planting of trees in developing countries where land is inexpensive. One sponsor thus far: Lockheed Martin, the defense contractor that manufactures military transport airplanes.

Music is our Bomb

A book/music review of *Sounding Off! Music as Subversion/Resistance/Revolution* and related rantings.

BY HOOT OWL

Sounding Off! Music as Subversion/Resistance/Revolution *and accompanying music CD, edited by Ron Sakolsky and Fred Wei-han Ho, published by Autonomedia, POB 568, Williamsburgh Station, Brooklyn, NY 11211-0568, USA.*

You are sitting around a crackling campfire with the heat pulsing off your face. Your gaze alternates between the liquid gold-orange and blue of the wood's flames and the other lit-up faces around the circle. The star-filled bowl of the sky arches. Songs are being sung; the blockade's lockdown chain around your wrist is your percussive contribution. And at this moment you're really living it. You grin at the cliché but feel it anyway. You're living the resistance.

Your face is pressed against a metal bench. It's wide enough to lie down and close your burning eyes, catch a wink, but it's skinny enough to push you off onto the concrete floor when the twitches of deep sleep approach. Yeah, prison. The cop chase scrolls around and around in your head, like the verses of the chant you shout-sing. You belt it out. Cells have great acoustics.

You pop the tape in. Not expecting it, time travel ensues. That tingly vertigo of déjà vu that only an old familiar tune brings. The flood of memory—that job in the bottle factory where people laughed a lot anyway, places you hiked and lost, the loves and sex, a burned bridge, the taste of sauerkraut (for this moment, things aren't about making sense).

Music is the heartbeat of our lives, whatever story we live out. When songs combine with struggle, power crackles in the air. Even in the most insidiously revisionist his-story books, we can strain and hear revolutionary music's melody through time. Where there's a fight, there's a soundtrack. Not Hollywood drivel, but sound that tracks our course.

Sounding Off!

In American colonial times through the end of the (more overt) plantations-of-slavery days, African songs not only helped sing through the hard work of the fields, but were also utilized as a means of subversive communication—one the white masters could not understand. This is the essence of music as resistance, and no matter the time or place we study, we will find it humming along. Music is a language older than words.

"There was a time in American history where the guerrillas of African-American culture were jazz musicians. They fought using their instruments; they connected our minds, our spirits, our souls, through instrumentation, through improvisation, through the musicality of what they were doing," Rogerio Botter Maio jams out in the song "So Isso."

You will find insights like this and much more in Ron Sakolsky and Fred Wei-han Ho's anthology of musical resistance: *Sounding Off! Music as Subversion/Resistance/Revolution.* Some of the articles worthy of mention: an interview with EF!er/Wobbly/bane of the FBI's existence, Judi Bari, plus the lyrics to Darryl Cherney's song "Who Bombed Judi Bari?"; an interview with pow-wow hiphop musician Robby Bee of Boyz from the Rez; a piece exploring Latino power and the incite-ful evolution of salsa music as *la alma del barrio* (the soul of the barrio); an exploration of aboriginal women musicians; world beat music's infiltration of the western

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world and the connected issues of cultural appropriation; as well as rap and resistance. Contributors include Robin Balliger, Susan Parenti, Billy Bragg, Negativland and many more.

Chock full of documentation, inspiration and analysis on radical music's place historically and in the present, *Sounding Off!* will read well for anyone who has ever liked a song or hummed a little ditty, lived in a tree village to stop clearcutting or helped kick a toxic waste facility out of their community. I recommend giving it at least a flip-through.

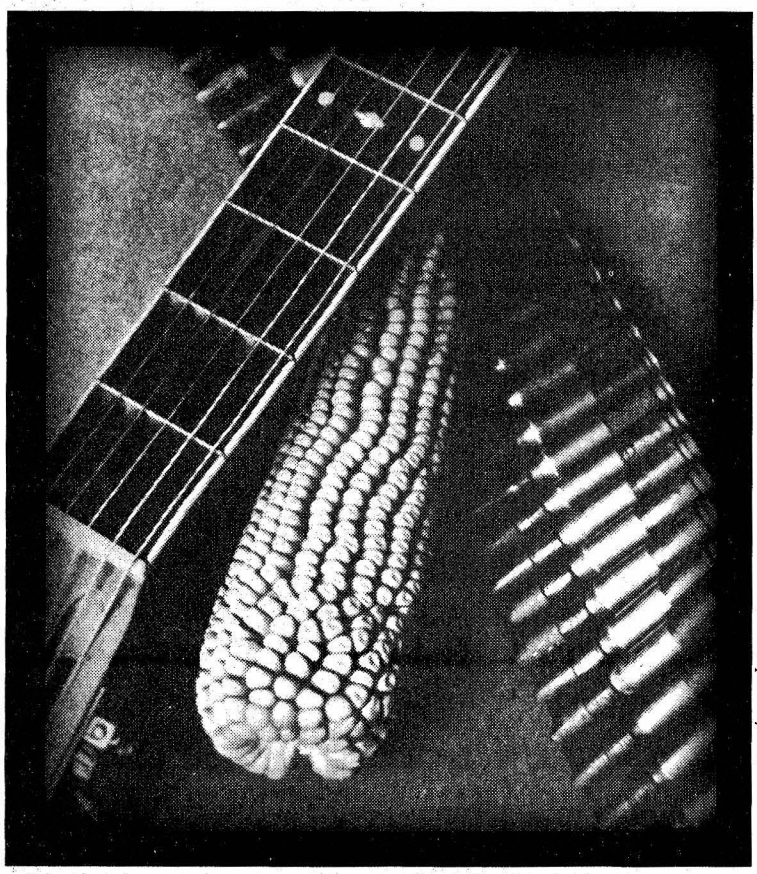


photo by Tina Modotti

A CD, composed of an eclectic mix of musical styles, also accompanies the book. Negativland has a funky splice track with their characteristic copyright-infringement, an amusing slag-off of U2 and the corpo-pop music industry. Kalamu Ya Salaam and the book's co-editor Fred Ho share a jazzy spoken word song that begins, "Be careful what evils you tolerate." The "Condom Couch" song by Carol Genetti—piqued your interest yet?

While the Earth burns, there is not much time for reading the zillion books we'd like to, so I also suggest that people simply listen to the musical accompaniment to the book. Get the written text's sentiments via tonal beat. Then use the time you saved to go out and do something for the Earth, by day, by night, or hell, during those transitional purple-gray gloaming periods.

From *Sounding Off!'s* preface: "Come all you guerrilla musicians: Native Warriors and Tricksters; Creoles and Majority-World Revolutionaries; Womynist Sisterhoods and Riot Girrrlz; Chaos Magicians and Spiritual Monkeywrenchers; Punks, Hiphoppers and Ravers; Surrealists, Noisicians and Plunderphiles; Socialists, Anarchists, Utopians and all the vibrant and complex radical hybrids therein. We are gathered here together in all our subversive beauty and marvelous diversity, and... Music is our bomb!"

"Guerrillas are those who know their power to make something out of nothing. The type of people that when the tables are turned against them, they create turntables, you know, and spin back history, cut it up, redefine it... Hiphop has the power to affect consciousness, to change the way people think. All that's necessary is for an MC to realize his/her power within the art form. To realize that once you say something over a break beat it has the power to enter people in ways that have been unimaginable in the past. Hiphop has the power to be the most powerful guerrilla warfare imaginable," speaks Tera-13 and Fun'da'mental over the beats.

Published by Autonomedia in 1995, *Sounding Off!* is only becoming more relevant and timely alongside the growing interest on many fronts in linking-up diverse issues with diverse tactics. A thorough analysis and appreciation of music's place in the toolbox of revolutionary tactics is sorely needed, and this book/CD combo makes an important and noteworthy stab at it.

If You Think You Can't Sing

Folk troubadour Woody Guthrie proclaimed, "I hate a song that makes you think that you are not any good. I am out to fight those songs to my very last breath of air and my last drop of blood. I am out to sing songs that will prove to you that this is your world, songs that make you take pride in yourself and in your work. I could hire out to the other side, the big money side, and get several dollars every week just to quit singing my own kind of songs and to sing the kind that knock you down still farther... but I decided a long time ago that I'd starve to death before I'd sing any such songs as that. The radio waves and your movies and your jukeboxes and your songbooks are already loaded down and running over with such no good songs as that anyhow."

Music and fighting for life go hand in hand. The impulse to sing is the same that liberates a caged animal. Likewise, both resistance and instrumentation give us the confidence to believe in ourselves and the strength to live our lives, not to mention a foot-tappin' goshdarn good ol' time.

The vocal chord is a muscle, and for what's ahead of us in defending the Earth and freedom itself, we need to train. To tone. If you think you can't sing, can you charge through a line of police or build a house?

They Sure Don't Make Earth First!ers Like They Used To

G
Once there were Earth First!ers
C
Living 'mongst the trees
G D
Flattening tires, pounding spikes
G
Radical as you please
G
Then one day they woke up
C
To the CoIntelPro game
G D
So they dropped effective tactics
G
And proceeded to be lame

C
Oh, they sure don't make Earth First!ers
G
Like they used to
D
They once were course and crass
G
But now they're kissin' ass
C
No, they sure don't make Earth First!ers
G
Like they used to
D G
Ecotopia does not spike trees anymore

Now one fine day in Carlotta
They had five thousand people there
And they really could have fucked shit up
If only they had dared
But instead of wrenching publicly
Overt and in daylight
They all just crossed a line
And went to jail without a fight

No, they sure don't make Earth First!ers
Like they used to
They once were spikin' trees
Now they smile and just say "please"
Oh, they sure don't make Earth First!ers
Like they used to
Ecotopia does not spike trees anymore

Now there's a logging thug named Ammons
One day he went and flipped his lid
He swore he would kill Gypsy
And then he promptly went and did
And the courtroom set this killer free
Once more to run amok
And no one burned his house down
Or even wrenched his truck

Oh, they sure don't make Earth First!ers
Like they used to
They'd fight to win the day
Now they just hold hands and pray
No, they sure don't make Earth First!ers
Like they used to
Ecotopia does not spike trees anymore

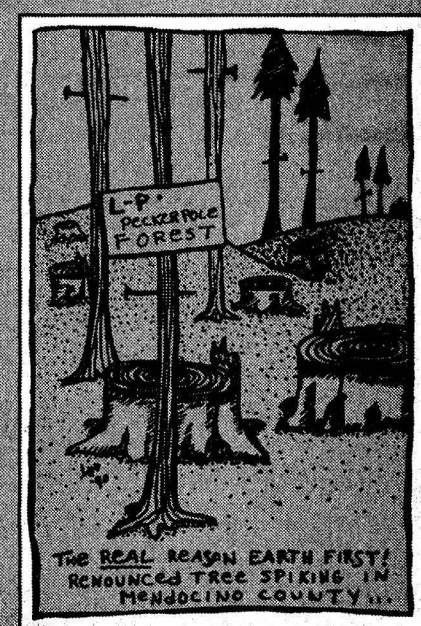
Now there's a guy named Darryl Cherney
He used to practice what he preached
And he'd smile big when the crankcase
Of a 'dozer had been breached
But when the flames rose up at the Vail lodge
He got a bad case of the blues
And he then bitched out the *Journal*
For reporting it as news

No, they sure don't make Earth First!ers
Like they used to
The crooks once shook with fear
Now they just laugh when we come near
Oh, they sure don't make Earth First!ers
Like they used to
Ecotopia does not spike trees anymore

Now if you go down to Arcata
They're gonna make you sign a form
It says you will not damage property
And you'll quietly conform
But I believe in revolution
With every tool that is around
So I say, "No dice! I'll wrench and spike
And I'm California-bound"

Yeah, they still make some Earth First!ers
Like they used to
Some still are wild and free
From 13 to 93
Yeah, they still make some Earth First!ers
Like they used to
Ecotopia may not spike trees but we do

—Avocado and Blueberry
(a parody of *They Sure Don't Make Hippies Like They Used To*, a tune by Darryl Cherney)



We can't just sing away oppression. No, it's gonna take much more than that, and it's gonna be cacophonous and bloody. It already is. But song surely resonates as one tool available to us, a vital expression of our love and rage.

So make funny, embarrassing noises to yourself in an alone place. There is no such thing as "out of tune." Stretch your throat and sing as high as you can go, now as deep and low. Find your voice. Watch the growth of one day, a week, a lifetime.

The FBI may have stolen Judi Bari's fiddle as "evidence" after a car bomb ripped through her, but they could never get to the songs in her head and heart. We always have our songs, our memories, even if our instruments are broken or seized.

You, me, our co-conspirators around the world—we are part of something brewing, and it's been a long time coming. The chorus of our voices is a song that makes the eardrums of authority burst. From the Infernal Noise Brigade anarchist marching band in the streets of Seattle (and Prague) to our incredible Earth First! music, we really will be singing when we're winning.

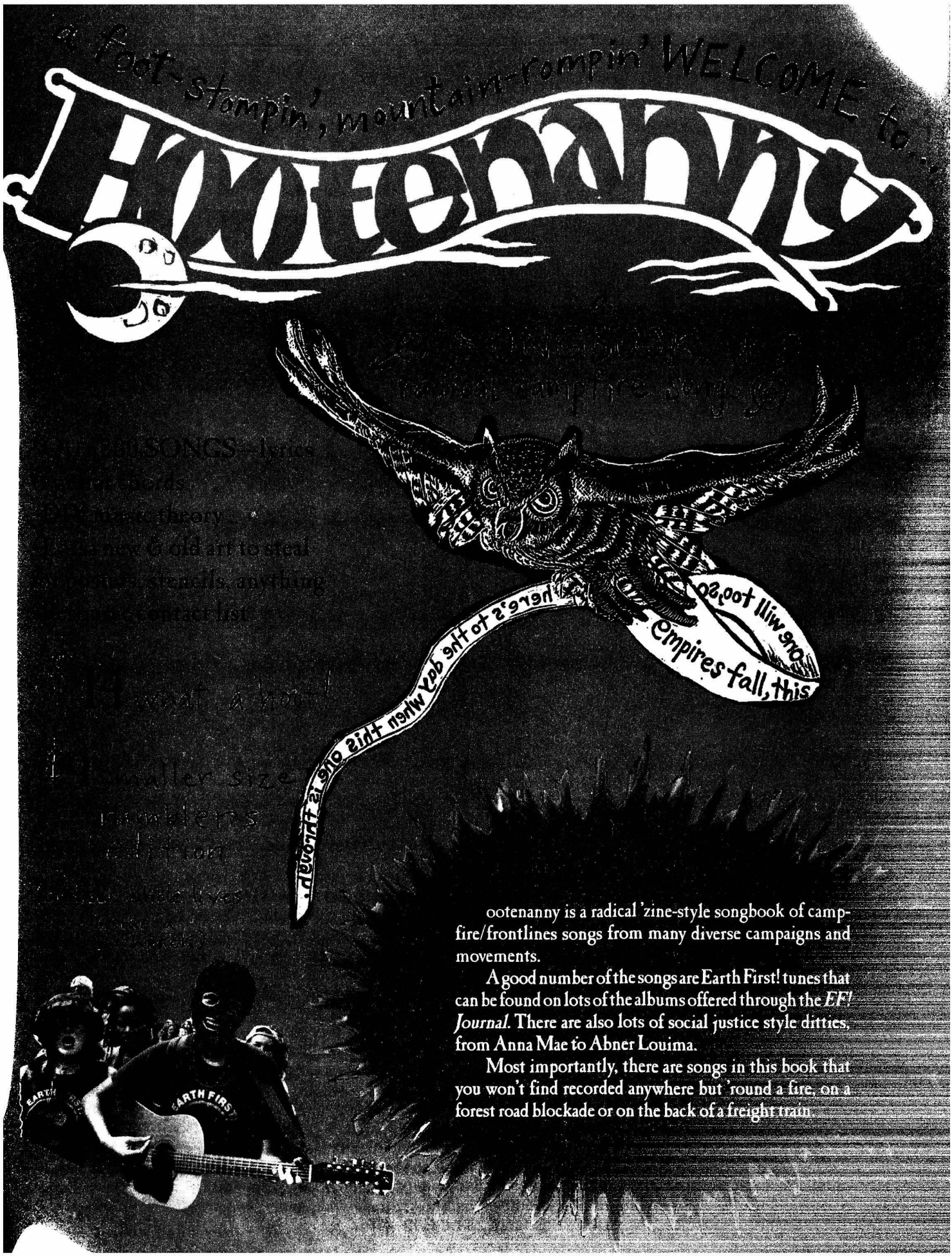
As Judi sang in the bluesy "The FBI Stole My Fiddle," "They said my strings was fuses. My bow it was the light. Down inside my fiddle hole, I stashed my dynamite. So when I stroke my fuse strings with my fiddle bow, you'd better run for cover because the fiddle might just blow."

Music is our bomb.

Tick, tick, tick, tick, tick, tick, tick...

Comments, critiques, requests for radical songs, and good or bad jokes can be sent to Hootenanny Songbook, *POB 1228, Tucson, AZ 85702; (510) 698-2039 ext. 2863 (voice/fax); hootenanny@tao.ca.*

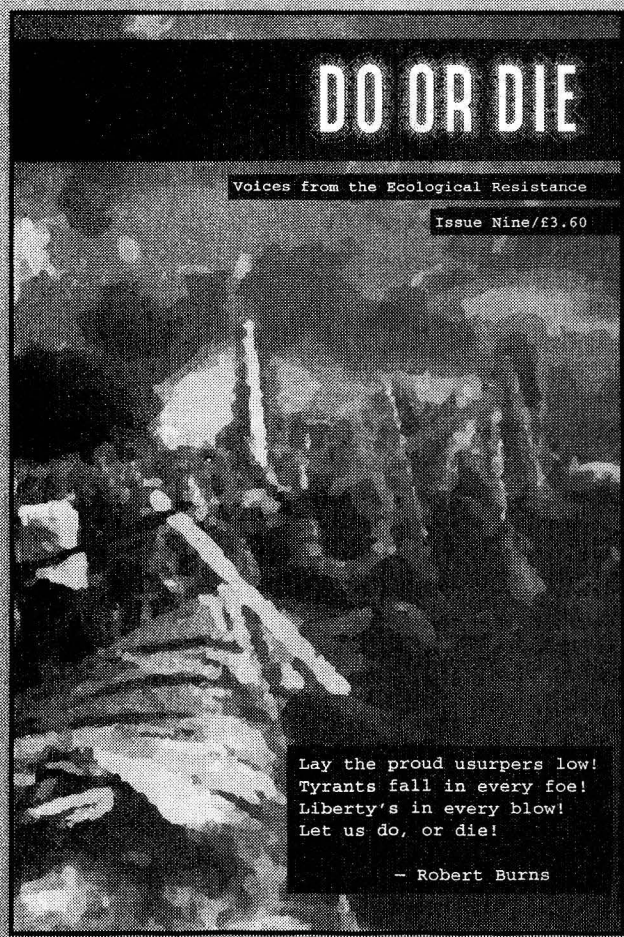
Parts of this article were originally published in Hootenanny—A Songbook of Radical Campfire Songs. *See ad on page 68. The "So Isso" and Tera-13 songs can be found on the album* Global Guerrillas, *available with* Blu Magazine *issue #10.*


a foot-stompin', mountain-rompin' WELCOME to...
Hootenanny
Empires fall, this one will too, so
here's to the day when this one is through.
EARTH FIRST!

ootenanny is a radical 'zine-style songbook of campfire/frontlines songs from many diverse campaigns and movements.

A good number of the songs are Earth First! tunes that can be found on lots of the albums offered through the *EF! Journal*. There are also lots of social justice style ditties, from Anna Mae to Abner Louima.

Most importantly, there are songs in this book that you won't find recorded anywhere but 'round a fire, on a forest road blockade or on the back of a freight train.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Voices from the Ecological Resistance
Issue Nine/£3.60
Lay the proud usurpers low!
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Liberty's in every blow!
Let us do, or die!
– Robert Burns

NEW BOOK!

The vibrant, rebellious voices of global ecological resistance shine in this annual journal of discerning analysis and exquisite style. Issue #9 includes a thorough look at both Seattle's WTO fun and the raucous World Bank protests in Prague, a GE wars round-up (pun intended), interviews, reviews and more! —$16

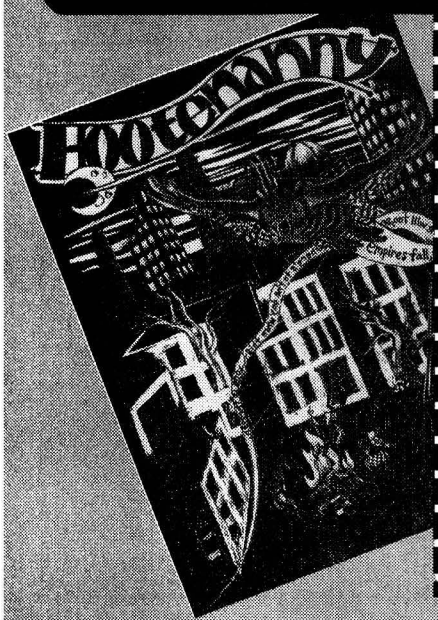
International Incident with Desert Rat

We love the boys in blue here at the *Journal.* That's why we endorse Desert Rat's song, *I Really Like the Cops*. Find this tune, *Eugene the Anarchist*, *When the Tear Gas Fills the Sky* and many more on *International Incident*. This album is a sprint down memory lane of the Battle in Seattle and its aftermath. Find Desert Rat's songs in the *Hootenanny Songbook*!

CD—$17

NEW MUSIC!

MERCHANDISE



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May 19

Confront the Global Warmakers by participating in nonviolent civil resistance to shut down the world's largest military targeting and surveillance base in southern California!

On May 19, concerned people will converge on Vandenberg's breathtakingly beautiful coast, for a mass nonviolent security zone occupation to challenge, confront, and disrupt its counterinsurgency satellite launch complex which is also used to guide nuclear missiles and Star Wars weapons. As Vandenberg's surveillance & targeting satellites guide the corporate/military death squads and gunships from Colombia to Indonesia, we have the power to rise up and say no—as we did in Seattle. Join us!

For more information, contact pnut119@hotmail.com; www.geocities.com/vafb.

2001 Forest Activist Conference
Bioregional Awareness as a Strategy for Forest Protection

May 18-20
Southern Oregon University campus
Ashland, Oregon

Students, activists and community members are collaborating with the Ecology Center of the Siskiyous (ECOS) to host the 2001 Forest Activist Conference at Southern Oregon University. The conference will consist of three days of keynote speakers, panel presentations, break out sessions, workshops and hands-on activities. We will create a forum to share diverse tactics and opinions to learn to protect wild forests from ongoing destructive practices. Although the conference will highlight the Klamath-Siskiyou and south Cascades region, strategies will be applicable to other ecoregions and communities.

Topics to be addressed include state of the movement, bioregionalism in an era of globalization, NEPA workshops, industrial wreckreation on public lands, ecosystem restoration, salmon issues, media literacy, labor alliances, wilderness education and much more. Outside activities will include hands-on restoration, direct action training, timber sale monitoring and natural history hikes.

For draft agenda and registration, contact (541) 552-8512; mariposa@envirocitizen.com; www.sou.edu/su/ecos.

The Wild Rockies Summer Direct Action Tour

If your summer looks dull come on over to the largest intact ecosystem in the lowers 48 states and help us make sure it stays that way by taking part in the Wild Rockies Summer Direct Action Tour. We will kick things off with a regional rendezvous at the Cove/Mallard basecamp in central Idaho from June 8-11.

There will be music, workshops, beer, free food and fun for all those attending. Our summer and fall schedule is designed to bring attention to the threats that face the Wild Rockies Ecosystem. Free food and transportation will be provided for the willing activist.

•June 8-11: Wild Rockies Rendezvous at the Cove/Mallard basecamp.

•June 12-July 2: Direct Action to stop the Otter-Wing and Mackey Day Timber Sales in the Wing-Twentymile Roadless area.

•July 3-18: EF! Rendezvous near the Tetons in WY. Confronting oil and gas leases as well as Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

•July 19-25: Confronting Boise Cascade at its international headquarters in Boise, Idaho.

•July 26-August 20: Rock Mine in Kootnie National Forest (NW Montana). This proposed mine would destroy critical grizzly habitat and would tunnel under the Cabinet-Yaak wilderness area.

•August 21-September 5: A massive salvage sale that is in the draft stages that would log 180 million board feet and rebuild to modern standard 600 miles of road in the Bitterroot National Forest.

•September 6-October 10: Stone Container in French Town, Montana. The pulp mill which pollutes the Missoula valley area is now burning 17,000 gallons of diesel fuel to save money on electricity. Actions will focus on that fact and eliminating the use of toxic chemical in production.

•As always we could use help with funds and gear. For more information, contact Wild Rockies EF!, POB 1742, Missoula, MT 59806; (406) 728-2318; wrreview@bigsky.net.

Forest Action Network Gathering to Defend the Great Bear Rainforest

May 20-26 • Bella Coola, British Columbia

Workshops and trainings will be facilitated to encourage continued skilled and informed resistance of industrial logging in ancient rainforests.

For more information, contact FAN, Box 625, Bella Coola, Nuxalk Territory, V0T 1C0 Canada; (250) 799-5800 (Bella Coola); 799-5830 (fax); (604) 739-4782 (Vancouver); fanbc@fanweb.org; www.fanweb.org.

PEOPLES' GLOBAL ACTION

North American Meeting

June 1–3 · Amherst, Massachusetts

PGA is an umbrella network of grassroots organizations worldwide that are building alternatives to neoliberal policies. Last September, PGA held an international meeting of continental convenors in Prague, Czech Republic. This meeting was in conjunction with the protests against the IMF and World Bank meetings there, as part of the call that PGA put out for the Global Day of Action Against Capitalism on September 26. Convenors, representing peoples' grassroots movements around the world, met to discuss PGA's goals for the future.

From this meeting emerged a plan for two sustained global actions:

a) building a movement to stop Plan Colombia, and

b) linking the struggles of people to reclaim our water and land rights.

The next international PGA meeting will be in Cochabamba, Bolivia, in September 2001. Participants will further define and develop strategies and tactics for the two sustained global actions, and discuss how to further continue to locally build, and globally link, positive resistance to capitalism. Prior to this meeting there will be a North American meeting called by the Tampa Bay Action Group of Florida, and the Anti-Capitalist Convergence of Montreal-Quebec (Convergence des Luttes Anti-Capitalistes-CLAC)—the two temporary co-conveners for North America.

Those organizations interested in having a voice on the organizing committee for the North American PGA meeting should contact pgarequest@riseup.net (please include only the word "subscribe" without quotes in body of the letter).

For more info on Peoples Global Action go to www.agp.org.

PGA—US Bus Tour
Tentative dates: April 20 through June 22

The tour will also discuss the privatization of water and land and how Plan Colombia is being used to consolidate resources for the large multinational corporations. From the use of genetically engineered defoliants in Colombia, to the attempts to destroy the U'wa people, to the racial discrimination against Black farmers in the US and their fight for land rights—are there links? Come hear and learn.

If you want the tour to stop by in your area or to register for the North American meeting or the Cochabamba meeting, contact the Tampa Bay Action Group at (727) 896-8224; oneworldnow@att.net.

UK Earth First! Summer Gathering

This year's summer gathering is August 1-5. For more information, contact summergathering@yahoo.co.uk.

There is much to learn and offer from our Brit comrads across the seas. So if you're headed across the Atlantic, hook up and make some connections.

Support Direct Action in the Sierra Nevada

Memorial Weekend, May 25-29

Come support the first direct action campaign in the Sierra Nevada. Five days of great workshops in the beautiful evergreen forests of Northern California. Plan to be self-sufficient and expect spring rains, cold nights and warm days. Please keep pets at home. Approximately three hours northeast of Sacramento, California.

For directions and details, contact (530) 265-7714; sierraef@hotmail.com; www.geocities.com/sierraef. Come bodyslam Sierra Pacific Industries' clearcutting rampage in the Sierra Nevada!

Send Candy Bars (or More) to the Mattole Defenders

On Democracy Now this a.m. [4/10/01], Amy Goodman discussed Pacific Lumber's (PL) SLAPP suit against NCEF!, the Mattole Forest Defenders, and John and Jane Does #1-200. Amy and her guest made the point that PL has allegedly promised to include as SLAPP suit defendants anyone who sends so much as a chocolate bar to the Mattole Forest Defenders!

We have an unprecedented opportunity to support the Mattole Forest Defenders, join the growing Doe family, and get a chance to participate in discovery motions and recovery of damages against PL for their efforts to suppress freedom of speech and freedom of assembly—all for the price of a (vegan/organic/shade-grown/ non-plantation/living wage) candy bar. What a deal!

To participate in this unique opportunity to support forest defense, endangered fisheries and our basic freedoms, just send the Mattole Forest Defenders your contributions... with vegan organic candy bars costing about $3.50 at the local co-op. As little as $4.00 can secure your place in the Doe family album. Send to Mattole Forest Defenders, POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518. Of course, contributions well in excess of $4.00 are even better!

artwork by Molly Maguire

the swiftness of deer
the vision of eagle
the strength of bear
the sureness of cougar
the stealth of snake
the wildness of wolf

guide these steps of mine,
my hand as it releases
these flames of life's hope
towards that which would
destroy us all...

Warrior of the Wind

Marco Camenish was born in Switzerland in 1953. After living in the mountains in contact with nature for years, he decided to take radical action in defense of the environment. In 1975, the Swiss ecological movement started a large campaign against nuclear power. Several bomb attacks and acts of sabotage were carried out on high velocity train towers, the NOK electricity company, the Sarelli hydroelectric company and other similar targets. In 1980, the police busted Camenish and his comrade Rene Moser.

Some time later, Camenish and five others escaped from prison. During the jailbreak, he killed a policeman in self-defense. Living underground in Italy, Camenish continued his subversive activities, but was recaptured on November 5, 1991. Since 1993, he has gone on hunger strike many times asking for better conditions for himself and other prisoners. He continues writing and exchanging information from prison while awaiting his extradition back to Switzerland.

"The living dead just understand the language
of money, of the rich, of power, of the law.
To those kind of people we can say:
As we know that you listen to weapons, that you don't understand any other language,
We decided that it's necessary to shoot
the weapons at you.
¡Resignation and fear is complicity!
¡Against the resignation, think the impossible!
¡Against the fear, learn to be brave!"
—Marco Camenish

Please write to support this committed eco-warrior. He can read and write in Italian, French, Swiss, Spanish and some English.

Marco Camenish
Viale dei Trigli 14
13900 Biella
Italy

The Nomadic Festival 2001

Calling all nomads, freaks, clowns, activists, performers and general riff raff to The Nomadic Festival 2001.

We start this year off at the Earth First! RRR. Days of free skool are coupled with nights of performances as we travel around North America to topple capitalism.

For more info call 1-800-3RINGPP code 0241; nomadsrus@disinfo.net.

ELF Press Office Needs Your Help Now

The ELF Press Office was raided again by the feds (see page 24). We desperately need some computer hardware, software and supplies to keep the office functioning. Please contact us if you can help. Contact or send donations to the North American ELF Press Office, (503) 478-0902; elfpress@tao.ca; www.earthliberationfront.com..

John Glass Sighting in Bozeman, Montana

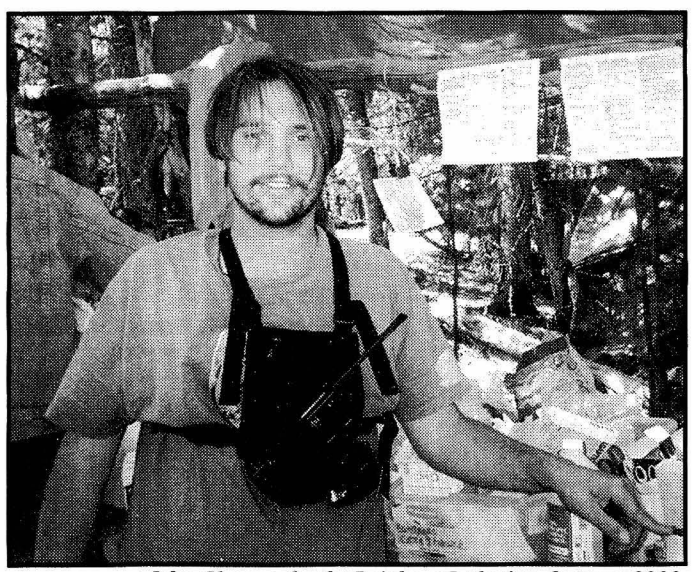
"John Glass," the infamous campaign infiltrator and saboteur, was sighted in Bozeman, Montana, on April 8. He was staying at a youth hostel and driving a black Toyota pickup with camper shell and Oregon plates. He was confronted by Mike Meese of the Buffalo Field Campaign. John gave him a ski instructor ID with the name Brian... something. He wanted to fight about it. He left the bar, went outside and made a quick radio or cell phone call.

His other known aliases are: John Glass, Jason Hammel, David Farquar, David M. West, Turquoise, SunRay, John West, Rew or Andrew Stines.

He is a poisoner, thief, pathological liar, rumor spreader and accomplished scammer. He knows more than he should about people and events and uses such information to establish credibility. He's a name-dropper and often poses as a medic and may have some military first aid training.

He's 5'7" or so. 180-200 lbs. Stocky build. 27-30 years old. Brown eyes, thin, scraggly brown hair. Thin mustache, "peach fuzz." Olive skin tone. "Steal Your Face" tattoo on right shoulder above T-shirt line.

Establish and practice good security culture. All communities should have a plan for how to deal with infiltrators/disrupters (for more info on security culture, see *EF!J* March-April 2001). All campaigns should be warned of his method of operation, as there are others like him who have or will use similar methods. "Glass" has poisoned someone; he is dangerous. *Do not leave him alone. Confront him and actively deal with him.*



John Glass at the the Rainbow Gathering, Summer 2000.

Biojustice 2001

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA JUNE 22-27

A CELEBRATION OF BIODIVERSITY AND ACTION TO RESIST THE BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY

Come join thousands of activists, scientists and farmers from around the world for a week of education, strategy and empowerment. Be part of the growing global movement to stop genetic engineering and protest BIO 2001, the largest-ever convention of the Biotechnology Industry Organization (www.bio.org).

From June 24-27 in San Diego, California, leaders of multinational biotech and pharmaceutical corporations, bureaucrats, marketers and industry scientists will meet at the BIO Conference to further their incessant drive for unethical profits.

JUNE 22-27: DAYS OF EDUCATION AND ACTION

(Please note: The Ruckus Society Bio-justice Ruckus camp is May 13-20. For more information, visit www.ruckus.org.)

Thousands of people will be converging on San Diego to learn about the threats of biotechnology and create a festival of resistance to genetic engineering and the commodification of life.

Come celebrate the global campaign for a just and sustainable food system and to take back our communities and our biodiversity.

Preparation for nonviolent direct action, creative visual expression and street theater will take place in San Diego the week leading up to BIO.

For those who can't make it to San Diego, an International Day of Action on June 24-25 is also being planned. More details coming soon.

For more information about getting involved, please contact folks at (619) 237-5496; biojustice2001@riseup.net; www.biodev.org.

"I envy the bears who shit in the woods. At least they have cut out the charming middlemen profiteering off our need to cleanse our funky behinds."

—KALAMU YA SALAAM & FRED HO, IN THE SONG "THE MURDER OF AMILCAR CABRAL" FROM THE *SOUNDING OFF!* BOOK CD

Prisoner Support: They Are in There for Us

Ecodefense

•Jeremiah Rush Bowen, #108016, DCC, 1140 East 10 Rd, Delta, CO 81416. Serving two years for the arson of a townhouse in Boulder, Colorado, in the summer of 2000.
•Jeffrey Luers, #1306729, 101 W 5th St, Eugene, OR 97401. AKA Free. Awaiting trial (May 30) on 11 charges relating to two arsons in Eugene, Oregon.
•Craig Marshall, c/o FCLDC, POB 50263, Eugene, OR 97405. AKA Critter. Serving a five-and-a-half year sentence for conspiracy to commit arson and possession of unlawful devices.
•Ted Kaczynski, #04475-046, US Pen - Admin Max Facility, POB 8500, Florence, CO 81226.
•Helen Woodson, #03231-045, FMC Carswell, POB 27137 Admin Max Unit, Fort Worth, TX 76127. Serving 27 years for robbing a bank and then setting the money on fire while reading out a statement denouncing greed, capitalism and the destruction of the environment.
•Lee Himlin EX7748 HMP Perry Road, Sherwood, Nottingham, N65 3AG, England. On remand for criminal damage to quarrying equipment at the Nine Ladies quarry.
•Silvano Pellissero, Com. Mastrolierto, Via Ferrerinoli #2, Sanponso, 10080 Torino, Italy. Serving six years and eight months for allegedly sabotaging a rail line construction site in the Northern Italian Alps. Silvano reads French, Spanish and Italian (not English).
•Marco Camenish, Viale dei Trigli 14, 13900 Biella, Italy (see page 73).

Animal Liberation

•Mel Broughton, DJ8216, HMP The Mount, Molyneaux Avenue, Bovingdon, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 0NZ, England. Serving four years for conspiracy to cause explosions.
•Barry Horne, VC2141, HMP Belmarsh, Western Way, Thamesmead, London SE28 0EB, England. Serving 18 years for various anti-vivisection arsons and attempted arsons.
•Mark Kulsdom, Blegdamfejens Faengsel, Blegdamsvej 6, 2200 Copenhagen N, Denmark. Dutch ALF activist serving 10 months for releasing 8,000 mink from a fur farm in Denmark.
•Robert Molenaar, Blegdamfejens Faengsel, Blegdamsvej 6, 2200 Copenhagen N, Denmark. Dutch ALF activist serving 10 months for releasing 8,000 mink from a fur farm in Denmark.
•Geert Waegemans, Begijnestraat 42 2000 Antwerp, Belgium. On remand. Charged with various arsons against the meat industry and McDonald's restaurants.

Anti-capitalist

•Robert Thaxton, #12112716, 777 Stanton St, Ontario, OR 97914. Rob threw a rock at a cop in self-defense at the 1999 Eugene J18 Reclaim the Streets and received a severe seven-year sentence as part of a "mandatory minimum" sentence.
•Michael Collins, FR6303, HMP Elmley, Church Road, Eastchurch, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 4AY, England (two years).
•Jonathan Elliot, FT10TT, HMP Petonville, Caledonian Road London, N7 8TT, England (six months, due out soon).
•Garfield Marcus Gabbard, FT9062, HMP Pentonville, Caledonian Road, London, N7, England. Garfield is expecting a seven-year prison sentence for setting fire to a police van during the N30 demonstrations.

Indigenous

•Eric Wildcat Hall, #BL-5355, Unit I/A 10745 Route 18, Albion, PA 16475-0002. Serving 35-75 years for helping ship arms to Central American resisters.
•Leonard Peltier, #89637-132, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048. An American Indian Movement (AIM) activist serving two life sentences, having been framed for the murder of two FBI agents.
•Robert Wilson #640289, Pack Unit 1, 2400 Wallace Pack Rd, Navasota, TX 77869. In 1978 Robert (a.k.a. Standing Deer) exposed a government plot to assassinate Leonard Peltier. His reward was life in prison.
•Lenny Chavez, POB 28703, Oakland, CA 94694. Lenny is an AIM activist who defended himself and his family from an armed racist. Lenny disarmed his attacker by stabbing him with a pen knife. Lenny was jailed for attempted murder.

MOVE

•Debbie Simms Africa (006307), Janet Holloway Africa (006308), Janine Philips Africa (006309), SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Ave, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238.
•Michael Davis Africa (AM4973), Charles Simms Africa (AM4975), SCI Grateford, POB 244, Grateford, PA 19426-0244.
•Edward Goodman Africa (AM4974), SCI Camp Hill, PA 17011-0200.
•William Philips Africa (AM4984), Delbert Orr Africa (AM4985), SCI Dallas, Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612.

Remember!

WE ARE IN HERE FOR YOU; YOU ARE OUT THERE FOR US

The *EF!J* offers free subscriptions to prisoners. Due to the high cost of mailing, we must request that prisoners and prison support groups/individuals keep us up-to-date when there is an address change so that we don't waste postage.

International EF! Directory

There is an international Earth First! web page at: www.snet.co.uk/ef/

AUSTRALIA

Rainforest Information Centre
POB 368, Lismore, NSW 2480
(066) 21 85 05

Australian EF! Action Update
ef_au@hotmail.com

EF! Australia Community
Lot 9 Halliford Rd via Dalby, Qld 4405
tel/fax 61 (0) 7 3207 0033
admin@earthfirst.org.au

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POB 3673, Courtenay, BC V9N 7P1
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naalfpo@tao.ca

EF! Manitoba
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Manitoba R2L 0R7; (204) 453-9052

EF! Montreal & *Diffusion Noire*
c/o Librairie Alternative
2035 St. Laurent, 2 e étage
Montréal, Quebec H2X 2T3

Elaho EF!
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earth_first@ziplip.com

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falcone@fiberia.com

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Car Busters Magazine & Resource Ctr
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+(420) 2 781-0849; fax 781-67-27
carbusters@ecn.cz

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An Talamh Glas c/o Anne
Abbey St., Ballinrobe, County Mayo
Limerick Talamh Glas
41 Glasgow Park, Limerick
00 353 61 313308

ENGLAND

Over 50 Earth First! and radical ecological direct action groups exist in the "United Kingdom." There are also a number of other anarchist/revolutionary groups and projects. For a list or for general news from the UK, contact:

EF! Action Update
PO Box 1TA, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
NE99 1TA, 0797-4791841
actionupdate@gn.apc.org

Manchester EF!
A30, c/o Dept.29, 255 Wilmslow Road,
Manchester M14 5LW
0161-226 6814
mancef@nematode.freeserve.co.uk

Leeds EF! c/O CRC
16 Sholebroke Ave, Leeds LS7 3HB
0113 262 9365; leedsef@ukf.net

Do or Die
c/o Prior House, 6 Tilbury Place,
Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2GY
doordtp@yahoo.co.uk

Fife EF!
c/o 91 South Street, St. Andrews, Fife
KY16 9Q, 01334- 477411

FINLAND

Finland EF!
Viivinkatu 17 AS 17
33610 Tampere 61; ransu@sci.fi

EF! Finland
tristan@iki.fi, tristantrefoil@iki.fi

FRANCE

Les Eco-guerriers
71 Av. Jean Jaurès, 92140 Clamart
01 40 95 09 06; contact@earth-first.org

GERMANY

EF! Germany c/o Avalon
Friedrich-Ebert Str 24, 45127 Essen

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Post Box 229

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+972 (0) 3 516 2349

THE NETHERLANDS

Groene Front!
Postbus 85069, 3508 AB, Utrecht
groenfr@dds.nl

PHILIPPINES

Ariel Betan, Green Forum
3rd Floor, Liberty Building
Pasay Road, Makati, Metro Manila
(2) 816-0986, 851-110, 818-3207

Volunteers for Earth Defense
189 San Antonio Ext. SFDM
1105 Quezon City

EF! Campaign East M. Mla.
POB 176, Tagig Central PO
1632 Tagig, M. Mla.

POLAND

Workshop for All Beings
POB 40, 43-304 Bielsko, Biala 4
tel/fax +48 33 (8)183153

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ul. Limanowskiego 138/42
91-038, Lodz; +48 42 653-38-16
goral@tewoz.most.org.pl

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Kaliningrad/Koenigsburg
tel/fax +7 (0112) 43 72 86
ecodefense@glas.apc.org
www.ecodefense.ru;
www.ecoline.ru/antinuclear

Rainbow Keepers (*10 local groups*)
POB 14, Nizhni Novgorod, 603082
(8312) 34-32-80

Rainbow Keepers (*Moscow*)
(095) 954-91-93, rk@glas.apc.org

Rainbow Keepers
POB 52, Kasimov, 391330
+7 (09131) 4 15 14; rk@lavrik.ryazan.ru

SCOTLAND

Glasgow EF!
POB 180, Glasgow G4 9AB
44 (0)41 636 1924/339 8009
fax 424 3688; scotree@gn.apc.org

SLOVAKIA

Slobodná Alternativa
Staromestská 6/D, 811 03 Bratislava

SOUTH AFRICA

Earth Action!
POB 181034, Dalbridge, Durban 6016

SOUTH KOREA

Green Korea United
110-740 #605 Korean Ecumenical Bldg.
136-56 Younji-Dong, Jongro-Gu, Seoul
82-2-747-8500, fax 82-2-766-4180
environ@chollian.net

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Curuxa, J. B., Xelmirer J
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Morgan Larsson
Lagmansgaten 9C, 46-37 Vänersborg
Action For Social Ecology
Box 34089, 10026 Stockholm;
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UKRAINE

Rainbow Keepers (*5 local groups*)
POB 322, Kiev 252187
+7 38 (044) 265-7628; fax 550-6068
rk@cci.glasnet.ru

WALES

Gwynedd & Mon EF!
The Greenhouse, 1, Trevelyan Terrace
Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 1AX
01248-355821

Projects & Campaigns

Bioengineering Action Network
POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440
ban@tao.ca; www.tao.ca/~ban

Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers
POB 7941, Missoula, MT 59807
(406) 728-0867; cmcr@wildrockies.org

EF! Direct Action Fund
POB 210, Canyon, CA 94516
tel/fax (925) 376-7329

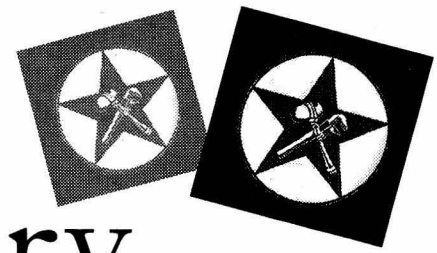
End Corporate Dominance
HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830
(541) 468-2028

North American Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network
POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440
naelpsn@yahoo.com

Warrior Poets Society
POB 14501, Berkeley, CA 94712

For changes to the directory contact us at:
Earth First! Journal
POB 3023
Tucson, AZ 85702-3023
(520) 620-6900
frog@earthfirstjournal.org

Earth First! Directory



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POB 860997, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486
ua-earthfirst@antisocial.com
ALASKA
Alaska Action Center
(907) 56-EARTH; akaction@alaska.com
ARIZONA
Arizona Wildlands Museum
POB 24988, Tempe, AZ 85285
Tucson EF!
POB 3412, Tucson, AZ 85722
az_earth_first@hotmail.com
Ponderosa Wingnuts
2155 E. Maple #17, Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(520) 774-6542
Wildfire Infoshop
POB 23552, Flagstaff, AZ 86002
wildfireinfoshop@yahoo.com
Riff Raff Collective
214 n. McKormick St, Prescott, AZ 86301
(520) 541-9162
Phoenix EF!
phoenixef@excite.com
CALIFORNIA
Northcoast EF!
POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518
(707) 825-6598; ncef@humboldt1.com
Sierra EF!
228 Commercial St, Dept. #174
Nevada City, CA 95959
Tahoe EF!
POB 1635, Kings Beach, CA 96143
(775) 831-7799x3378
earthffirst@sierranevada.edu
Davis EF!/FOW-Cascadia
(530) 753-1678
Fairfax Action Team
POB 393, Lagunitas, CA 94938
Sonoma County EF!
POB 7544, Santa Rosa, CA 93107
hotline (707) 523-1229
Bay Area EF!
POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516
(510) 848-8724
Santa Cruz EF!/EF! Radio
POB 344, Santa Cruz, CA 95061
(831) 425-3205; cruzef@cruzio.com
Sequoia EF!
POB 1108, Exeter, CA 93221
exetrade@aol.com
Santa Barbara EF!
POB 12799, Santa Barbara, CA 93107
(805) 961-2516; sbef@rain.org
Action Resource Center
POB 2104, Venice, CA 90294
(310) 396-3254, fax 392-9965
arcla@enviroweb.org
Mojave EF!
POB 492, Lancaster, CA 93584
(805) 948-6291
Peninsular Ranges EF!
POB 4738, Irvine, CA 92616-4738
Southcoast EF!
POB 1463, Fullerton, CA 92836
COLORADO
San Juan EF!
POB 3204, Durango, CO 81302
Wilderness Defense!
www.wildernessdefense.com
Art Goodtimes
POB 1008, Telluride, CO 81435
Tim Haugen
POB 81, Gulnare, CO 81042
Gunnison Basin EF!
POB 592, Crested Butte, CO 81224
Culebra EF!
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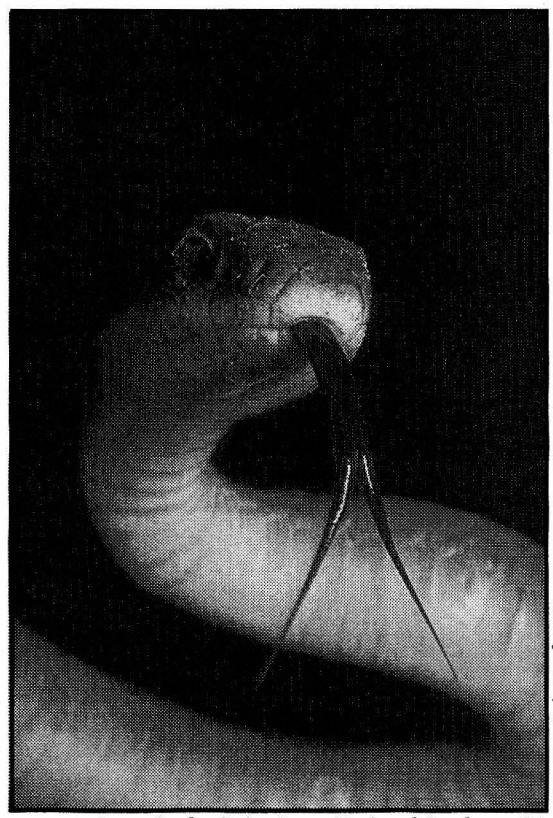

Racer Snake, Point Reyes National Seashore, CA

photo by Dave Parks

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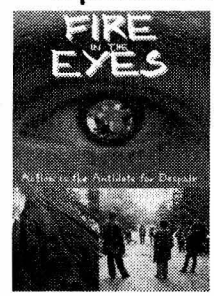

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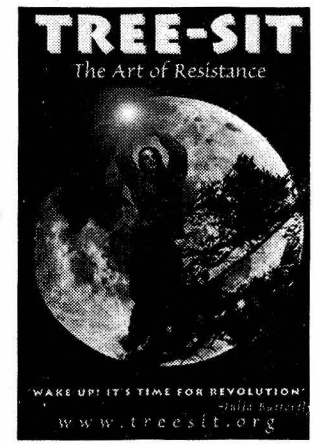

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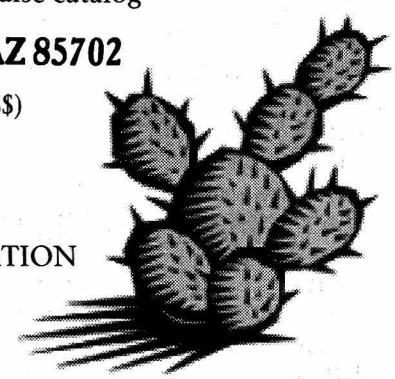

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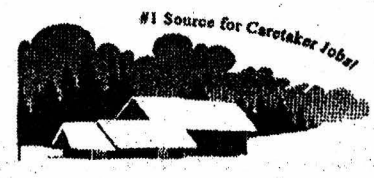

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True, Incomplete & Wonderful History of May Day

BY PETER LINEBAUGH

To the history of May Day there is a Green side and there is a Red side. Green is a relationship to the Earth and what grows thereof. Red is a relationship to other people and the blood spilt there among. Green designates life with only necessary labor; Red refuses death by surplus labor. Green is natural appropriation; Red is war against social expropriation. Green is social utility; Red resists manufactured futility. Green dreams of the world that is to come; Red resists the world as it is. Green is nurturing; Red is struggle. May Day is both.

The Green

Once upon a time, before there was a New World Order, before the 21st century, a broad mantle of forests blanketed the Earth. As late as Caesar's time a person might travel through the woods for two months without gaining an unobstructed view of the sky. The immense forests of Europe, Asia, Africa and America provided the atmosphere with oxygen and the Earth with nutrients. Within the woodland ecology our ancestors did not have to work the graveyard shift, or to deal with flextime, or work from nine to five. Indeed, the Native Americans whom Captain John Smith encountered in 1606 only worked four hours a week. The origin of May Day is to be found in the woodland epoch.

In Europe, as in Africa, people honored the woods in many ways. With the leafing of the trees in spring, people celebrated "the fructifying spirit of vegetation," to use the phrase of anthropologist J.G. Frazer. They did this in May, a month named after Maia, the mother of all the gods according to the ancient Greeks, giving birth even to Zeus.

The Greeks had their sacred groves, the Druids their oak worship, the Romans had their games in honor of Floralia. In Scotland, the herdsmen formed circles and danced around fires. The Celts lit bonfires on hilltops to honor their god, Beltane. In the Tyrol, people let their dogs bark and made music with pots and pans. In Scandinavia, fires were lit and the witches came out.

Everywhere people "went a-Maying" by going into the woods and bringing back leaf bough and blossom to decorate their persons, homes and loved ones with green garlands. Outside theater was performed with characters like "Jack-in-the-Green" and "Queen of the May." Trees were planted. Maypoles were erected. Dances were danced. Music was played. Drinks were drunk, and love was made. Winter was over, spring had sprung.

The history of these customs is complex and affords the student of the past with many interesting insights into the history of religion, gender, reproduction and village ecology. Take Joan of Arc, who, after her inquisitors believed she was a witch, was burned at the stake in May 1431. Not far from her birthplace, she told the judges, "There is a tree that they call the Ladies' Tree; others call it the Fairies' Tree. It is a beautiful tree, from which comes the Maypole. I have sometimes been to play with the young girls to make garlands for Our Lady of Domremy. Often I have heard the old folk say that the fairies haunt this tree." The paganism of Joan's heresy originated in the Old Stone Age when religion was animistic and shamans were women and men.

Monotheism arose with the Mediterranean empires. Even the most powerful Roman Empire had to make deals with its conquered and enslaved peoples (syncretism). As it destroyed some customs it had to accept or transform others. Thus we have Christmas trees.

The farmers, workers and child-bearers (laborers) of the Middle Ages had hundreds of holy-days which preserved the May Green, despite the attack on peasants and witches. Whether May Day was observed by sacred or profane ritual, by pagan or Christian, by magic or not, by straights or gays, by gentle or callused hands, it was always a celebration of all that is free and life-giving in the world. That is the Green side of the story.

This is an edited version of a piece published by the Midnight Notes Collective, POB 204, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130. For the full text, which includes the Red side of the story, visit www.midnightnotes.org/mayday/author.html.

I ATE the RAINFOREST.
$$$$
mmmm YUM
LAW

We, who can still hear the jaguar scream,
We dream of a day when all things wild will again be free.
We long for a time when every species will be loved
and honored equally.
It is a dream we may never see fulfilled.
But in answer to our own wild hearts,
It is a dream we will fight for
until the day we die.

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